



HomeschoolNYC Newsletter

Celebrating Child-led Learning

Vol. V, issue 1
February, 2014

It's been a snowy winter in New York City. The quiet magic of snowfall transforms our world into silver white, giving us extra days off to sit inside with a cup of hot cocoa. This is the time to reflect on your child's well being, and also on your own. What interests of your own have you put aside or postponed in order to focus on home, work, and family? Learn something new! Take the Spanish course or knit the scarf or schedule the flute lessons... for yourself! Educating the whole child means sharing what you love, and also being a living example of learning in order to follow your heart and feed your soul.



[Laurie Block Spiegel](#)

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Laurie@HomeschoolNYC.com.

The Whole Child

Educating the Whole Child

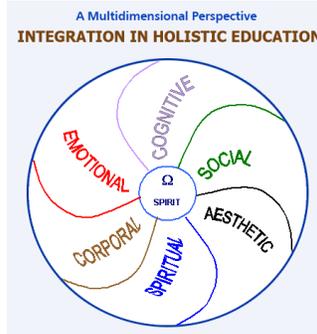
Related Articles by Laurie

Books That Celebrate Winter

Crafts for the Winter Season

Quote by Anatole France

Educating the Whole Child



It is ridiculous to think that a teacher or parent can educate just a part of the child, but that is the traditional approach, with each subject taught separately, relying solely on books, pen and paper. I hesitate to use terms like Holistic Education or Whole Child, because these terms are embraced by educational businesses (such as tutoring agencies), and by the Common Core Curriculum, both examples of non-holistic education. The "whole child" view implies that the whole child is influenced by everything, and interacts with everything, with the whole world. In turn, the whole world is interacting with the child. Our children are aware of far more than they can express, and they are learning all the time. [...CONTINUED...](#)

[READ MORE](#) about the Big Crowd Project, Reggio Emilia, and teaching every age.

Related articles by Laurie:

[Five Games That Develop Listening Skills](#)

[The Fully Engaged Student](#)

[Playing Catch: A Metaphor for Child-led Learning](#)

[Books that Celebrate Winter](#)



[Click here for a list of books](#) that will help the whole family celebrate the wonder of winter.

[Crafts for the Winter Season](#)

[Click here](#) to learn how to make miniature Olympic winter games, paper snowflakes, download printable finger puppets, paper circus animals, and more!



Quote by Anatole France

"The whole art of teaching is only the art of awakening the natural curiosity of young minds for the purpose of satisfying it afterwards; and curiosity itself can be vivid and wholesome only in proportion as the mind is contented and happy."

~ Anatole France (1844-1924), French poet, journalist, novelist, recipient of the Nobel Prize for Literature

Education Uncensored

Here's what people are saying about Laurie's book:

"You made me laugh, you made me cry, and you inspired me. I can literally hear your voice, and love your storytelling and your wisdom and just the whole package. I'm stimulated and filled with ideas for my own teaching."

~ Dr. Bonnie Shulman, professor of mathematics, Bates College

"I just wanted to tell you how much I appreciated meeting you and reading your book. It is terrific, and for me, the best part was its New York perspective. I know no other book available to homeschoolers that so overtly references an urban perspective."

~ David Albert, author of *And the Skylark Sings with Me* and other books

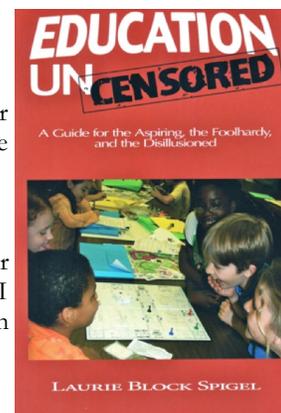
"Laurie's evolution as a teacher and life-long involvement in the world of education has given her a profound understanding of the problems that plague today's schools. This book offers an insightful look at how an increasingly standardized system is robbing our children of their individuality and passion for learning. Additionally, it provides innovative how-to curriculums for anyone involved or interested in educating children."

~ Ellen Labiner, homeschooling parent and special educator

[Read excerpts here.](#)

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