

© WHAT I
WANT MY
DAUGHTER TO
KNOW



By Karli Winters
EDUC 530
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Congratulations! Today is your day!
You're off to Great Places! You're off and away!

You've come to this earth with so much to share
And it's my job to help you go here or get there

Learn all you can while you're still very young
For the world is counting on you, little one

Education, I'm sure, is the key to the world
The future transformed through just one little girl



**LEARNING IS
COOPERATIVE**

I am your teacher, your leader, your guide
But we're taking this journey as one, side by side

And as you are learning, remember I too
Am learning at least just as much as are you!



I want you to know that this life is not
About driving the fastest new car off the lot

It's about finding meaning in things that you do
And to yourself, making sure you are true

For we all are connected in this vast world, and we
Can work to make miracles happen, you see

For whenever we gather with others who share
A common goal or a vision, then hope's in the air
And great things can happen and often they do
Believe me, I've seen it and done it, it's true!



Taking care of yourself is important as well
For when your mind hurts then your body can tell

Or when your poor spirit is down in the dumps
You may find yourself with a few extra lumps
Where there shouldn't be any lumps, you are sure
But now you must go and look for the cure

It could be that the cure is quite easy to find
When you connect with your body and spirit and mind
Because all are connected, of this much I know
And a pain in your heart could show up in your toe.

EDUCATION SHOULD BE:

- **Interdisciplinary**
- **Active**
- **Student-driven**
- **Connected to the student's lived-experience**



(Kelly, 2006, Class Handout)

The world is our classroom, we are not confined
To sit in straight rows or to color in lines

Education is more than what's written down
There's so many more things to be covered, I've found

Like learning what's right and what's wrong, and how you
Can decide for yourself what these things mean for you

So our classroom will have a bit different design
And our lessons will probably shift with the times

We'll start in your room, then we'll head out the door
Down the street, to the mall, or the grocery store

For these are all places of learning, you know
And please don't ever stop, even when you get old

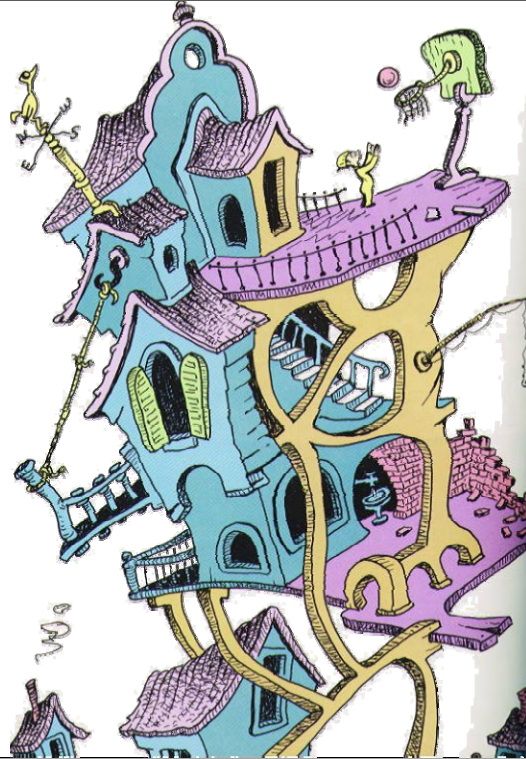


Together we'll learn about people and things
Very different from us, and the richness they bring
To our lives and the world, and how really it's plain
To see that we all are less different than same.

We could visit a synagogue, mosque or the like
Or explore Chinatown on the seat of a bike
Invite a friend over to share of her faith
Or walk in the shoes of a different race

The connections we'll make will be lasting, I know
And will help you and me and the nation to grow.

**ACHIEVING
BALANCE
IN LIFE
AND
LEARNING**



We will make sure we have balance in each
Of the things that we learn, say, do, think, feel and teach
For balance is very important you'll find
In keeping in synch your soul, body and mind

We'll remember that stories have at least two sides each
And remember them both in our actions and speech
And we'll also make sure that our work and our play
Will balance each other on each single day



Our learning approaches will be different and plenty
 As we borrow from cultures, indeed there are many

We'll listen to stories and play and have fun
 As the Chinese and African cultures have done
 You can watch and then model behaviors of Mom
 As the children will do in the culture of Rom.

As an existentialist student will you get to choose
 What excites you and what really brings you to snooze
 We'll learn to serve others, to put them before self
 As we take a page from the Jesuit's shelf

The most crucial skill that you should have, I think,
 Is to question and dialogue...the Idealist link.

**"As you educate a woman, you
educate the family..."**

**...If you
educate the
girls, you
educate the
future."**



-Her Majesty Queen Rania Al-Abdullah, 2006, Interview with Oprah Winfrey

With life as your classroom, your learning will be
So much more relevant, to the hundredth degree
Knowledge will be more than what's formally taught
And learning won't end when the weather gets hot

You'll educate others and help them become
More than they ever believed could be done
You'll live life in balance, remembering they
Whose voices are too often silenced away

So you have the tools now, it's all that you need
To go and be all that you're destined to be
And if you are lost and you can't find your way
You'll know I'm right there every step of the way

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