

# Creating a Sensory-Rich Learning Environment

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The ability to grasp and retain new information, skills, and tools is a direct response to the environment where learning takes place. The greater the stimulation and immersion of the student in the learning process, the greater the retention and application of the information. Here are some wonderful techniques for creating a sensory-rich learning environment.

## The Five Finger Rule - An Example

Thumb – Be positive

Pointer – Don't point fingers or blame others. Be responsible for you.

Middle – Respect

Ring – Commitment to the team, the situation, the game

Pinky – Safety – look out for the little guy.



## Activities

Hieroglyphics

Matchmaking Cards

A Little World

Lycra Tubes

Stationary Greetings

Nose Jousting

Quotes in Order

Wah!

A Circle of Connection

The 4 Minute Team

Blind Trust Drive

Winks & Blinks

## Suggested Reading

Multiple Intelligences in the Classroom, 2000, Thomas Armstrong, ISBN 0-87120-376-6

Made to Stick – Why Some Ideas Survive & Others Die, Chip & Dan Heath, ISBN 978-1-4000-6428-1

Smart Moves - Why learning is not all in your head, 1995, Carla Hannaford, ISBN 0-915556-27-8

Teambuilding Puzzles by Mike Anderson, Jim Cain, Chris Cavert and Tom Heck

The Teach with Movies website, [www.teachwithmovies.com](http://www.teachwithmovies.com)

Reviewing and Debriefing website (Roger Greenaway) [www.reviewing.co.uk](http://www.reviewing.co.uk)

**Three Styles of Learning:** *auditory, kinesthetic and visual*

**Eight styles of intelligences:** *logical/mathematical, bodily kinesthetic, visual/spatial, linguistic, musical, interpersonal (knowledge of others), natural/environmental, and intrapersonal (knowledge of self).*

**Short Term and Long Term Memory:** *The difference between 20 seconds and 20 years.*

**The SUCCEs Model** from the book, *Making Ideas Stick* by Chip and Dan Heath. The goal here is to make learning 'sticky.' Sticky information is easy to remember and apply, if it is: *simple, unexpected, concrete, credible, emotional and involve stories.*

*As the bottom gets numb-er, the brain gets dumber!*

Marcia L. Tate

*The brain can only absorb what the butt can endure!*

Gabe Campbell

*Movement is the door to learning.*

Dr. Paul Dennison

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