Creating Learning Environments

This superbly researched study offers a chalk-face perspective on the secret of Finland's educational success. Providing an intimate and revealing portrait of the Nordic nation's schools and its teacher training system, it sets out to explain why Finland's students consistently rank top, with low variance and moderate inputs, among OECD countries across the range of criteria, from reading to mathematics. Alongside the detailed analysis culled from many hours of interviews with teachers and principals and dozens of visits to school throughout the country, the author maps the educational landscape of Finland: the sector's history, culture and development, its guiding principles, methodologies, and learning environments.

Features
► Provides a thorough analysis of the Finnish education system and its cultural context not only on national level but par excellence on local, school and classroom level ► Privileges the narratives of teachers and principals and shows the material within the framework of the Finnish success education literature ► Develops the idea that Finland is a learning environment

Contents
Dedication.- Preface.- Prologue.- Introduction.- Finland's success.- Teachers.- Does Finland evaluate school education?- Lives and thoughts of teachers and principals I.- Lives and thoughts of teachers and principals II.- Finland's teaching and learning environment ► Develops the idea that Finland is a learning environment

Fields of interest
Sociology of Education; Teaching and Teacher Education; Educational Policy and Politics

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

New Series
SpringerBriefs in Education

Assistant editor: S. Huber

We are delighted to announce SpringerBriefs in Education, an innovative product type that combines elements of both journals and books. Briefs present concise summaries of cutting-edge research and practical applications in education. Featuring compact volumes of 50 to 125 pages, the SpringerBriefs in Education allow authors to present their ideas and readers to absorb them with a minimal time investment. Briefs are published as part of Springer's eBook Collection. In addition, Briefs are available for individual print and electronic purchase. SpringerBriefs in Education cover a broad range of educational fields such as: Science Education, Higher Education, Educational Psychology, Assessment & Evaluation, Language Education, Mathematics Education, Educational Technology, Medical Education and Educational Policy. SpringerBriefs typically offer an outlet for: An introduction to a (sub)field in education summarizing and giving an overview of theories, issues, core concepts and/or key literature in a particular field A timely report of state-of-the art analytical techniques and instruments in the field of educational research A presentation of core educational concepts An overview of a testing and evaluation method A snapshot of a hot or emerging topic or policy change An in-depth case study A literature review A report/review study of a survey An elaborated thesis Both solicited and unsolicited manuscripts are considered for publication in the SpringerBriefs in Education series. Potential authors are warmly invited to complete and submit the Briefs Author Proposal form. All projects will be submitted to editorial review by editorial advisors. SpringerBriefs are characterized by expedited production schedules with the aim for publication 8 to 12 weeks after acceptance and fast, global electronic dissemination through our online platform SpringerLink. The standard concise author contracts guarantee that: an individual ISBN is assigned to each manuscript each manuscript is copyrighted in the name of the author the author retains the right to post the pre-publication version on his/her website or that of his/her institution

Features
► Revisits Dewey's approach to politics and education within contemporary debates on education, learning and the School ► Focuses on Dewey's concept of disposition as a pedagogical concept ► Explores the relationship between pedagogy, liberty and disposition ► Repositions Dewey in contemporary political and educational contexts ► Takes Dewey's concept of experimentation into a discussion of unlearning and deschooling through the arts and aesthetics education

Contents

Fields of interest
Educational Philosophy; Philosophy of Education

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Due December 2013

2014. Approx. 100 p. (SpringerBriefs in Education / SpringerBriefs on Key Thinkers in Education)

Softcover
► $49.95
ISBN 978-94-007-7846-7

Due December 2013

2014. Approx. 200 p. 30 illus., 10 in color. Hardcover
► $54.99
ISBN 978-3-319-02823-1
Heteroglossia as Practice and Pedagogy

Contents

Fields of interest
Language Education; Applied Linguistics; Learning and Instruction

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

World Class Initiatives and Practices in Early Education
Moving Forward in a Global Age

Contents

Fields of interest
Childhood Education; International and Comparative Education; Sociology of Education

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Discourses on Professional Learning

The contributions in this volume explore theoretical and empirical analyses on the boundary between working and learning in various contexts and with various methodological approaches. The main focus of the book is the merge of work activities and learning. In the early decades of the twentieth century, at the peak of industrialisation, the distinct separation of working and learning was the dominant principle—the early concepts of work organisation even distinguished between working and thinking by consequently separating planning of work from executing the work. Within the ongoing discussion on life-long learning and the establishment of modern business concepts which aimed at meeting the demands of permanent change by implementing flexible work structures, the legitimate interest on workplace learning has been continually increasing in recent years. Current approaches emphasise the learning potential of workplaces, combining the application of competence (i.e. working) and its acquisition (i.e. learning).

Features
▸ Provides a general approach to elaborate and analyse learning processes within work environments ▸ Includes competing theoretical and methodological approaches and perspectives ▸ Offers a compact outline on an emerging field of research based on current research by a distinguished group of international researchers

Fields of interest
Professional and Vocational Education; Lifelong Learning/Adult Education

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical
Current Trends in Eye Tracking Research

Contents

Feature
- Publication in the field of natural sciences

Contents
Knowledge Needed for Teaching. - Mathematics Teacher Education in China and the United States of America. - Comparison of Knowledge of Algebra for Teaching (KAT) between China and the U.S.A. - Relationship among Different Knowledge of Algebra for Teaching. - Comparison of KAT and KTCF between China and the U.S.A.

Fields of interest
Learning and Instruction; Cognitive Psychology; Psycholinguistics

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Due December 2013
2014. Approx. 290 p. Hardcover
$129.00
ISBN 978-3-319-02867-5

Due March 2014
2014. Approx. 225 p. 23 illus. (Perspektiven der Mathematikdidaktik, Volume 7) Softcover
$99.00
ISBN 978-3-658-03671-3

Due February 2014
2014. Approx. 250 p. 40 illus. Hardcover
$129.00

R. Huang, Middle Tennessee State University, Murfreesboro, TN, USA

Prospective Mathematics
Teachers’ Knowledge of Algebra
Teaching in China and the United States of America

Rongjin Huang examines teachers’ knowledge of algebra for teaching, with a particular focus on teaching the concept of function and quadratic relations in China and the United States. 376 Chinese and 115 U.S.A. prospective middle and high school mathematics teachers participated in this survey. Based on an extensive quantitative and qualitative data analysis the author comes to the following conclusions: The Chinese participants demonstrate a stronger knowledge of algebra for teaching and the Chinese participants’ structure of knowledge of algebra for teaching is much more interconnected. Chinese participants show flexibility in choosing appropriate perspectives of the function concept and in selecting multiple representations. Finally, the number of college mathematics and mathematics education courses taken impacts the teachers’ knowledge of algebra for teaching.

Fields of interest
Mathematics Education; Teaching and Teacher Education

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

C. Karagiannidis, P. Politis, I. Karasavvidis, University of Thessaly, Volos, Greece (Eds)

Research on e-Learning and ICT in Education
Technological, Pedagogical and Instructional Perspectives

Features
- Includes original research on cutting edge e-Learning technologies
- Addresses both theoretical and technical aspects of e-Learning
- Includes invited articles from the 8th Pan-Hellenic Conference on ICT in Education (HICITE 2012)

Contents

Fields of interest
Technological, Pedagogical and Instructional Perspectives

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical
The Action Research Planner

Doing Critical Participatory Action Research

A fully-updated and reworked version of the classic book by Stephen Kemmis and Robin McTaggart, now joined by Rhonda Nixon, The Action Research Planner is a detailed guide to developing and conducting a critical participatory action research project. The authors outline new views on ‘participation’ (based on Jürgen Habermas’s notion of a ‘public sphere’), ‘practice’ (as shaped by practice architectures), and ‘research’ (as research within practice traditions).

Features
► A step-by-step guide to planning critical participatory action research projects ► Provides concise and readable illustrative examples ► Provides practical resources to assist new and experienced action researchers planning a study ► Provides a theoretical framework that explains ‘participation’, ‘practice’ and ‘research’ ► Fully updated new edition of a classic of Action Research literature

Contents

Fields of interest
Teaching and Teacher Education; Learning and Instruction; Assessment, Testing and Evaluation

Target groups
Graduate

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical

Research Trends in Mathematics Teacher Education

Research from the 2012 PME-NA Annual Conference

Features
► Reports the newest empirical data on teaching mathematics ► Results from 2012 PME-NA Annual Conference ► Synthesizes information on teacher identity and teacher content knowledge

Contents

Field of interest
Mathematics Education

Target groups
Research

Discount group
Professional Non-Medical
The Ranking Phenomenon and its Implications for Higher Education in Taiwan

Contents
List of tables and figures.- Acknowledgments.- Chapter 1 Introduction. 1.1 Statement of the problem. 1.2 Research objectives. 1.3 Theoretical orientation. 1.4 Methodology. 1.5 Organisation of the book.- Chapter 2 Theorising University Rankings. 2.1 The complex world of higher education. 2.2 The ranking phenomenon. 2.3 Four dimensions of university rankings. 2.4 Analytical framework.- Chapter 3 Taiwan’s Higher Education in Context. 3.1 Social transformation in Taiwan. 3.2 A general picture of higher education in Taiwan. 3.3 Reforms and transitions since the 1990s.- Chapter 4 Influences of University Rankings: Policy Implications and Changes to University Governance and Individual Behaviours. 4.1 Impacts on policies and systemic arrangements. 4.2 Institutional responses to university rankings. 4.3 Reactions and reflections of faculty members.- Chapter 5 University Rankings and Regionalisation of Higher Education: Using University Rankings to promote Taiwan’s Interests. 5.1 University ranking as a governing tool. 5.2 University ranking as a zoning technology. 5.3 University ranking as a mechanism of agenda setting.- Chapter 6 Manifestations of the Power of University Rankings: Struggling between Love and Hate. 6.1 The power of university rankings. 6.2 Love. 6.3 Hate.- Chapter 7 Openness and Closeness of University Rankings: World-class Worldwide versus Global Hegemony. 7.1 University rankings as an institution. 7.2 Openness: the bright side. [...]