

INTRO TO SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING

WHAT IS SELF-DIRECTED LEARNING (SDL)

Self Directed Learning happens whenever people **decide** to learn about something, with or without help.

When people:

- Expand a skill set, a business,
- Increase personal knowledge,
- Change attitude (s),
- Improve work performance, family life, health, or fitness,
- Enjoy the arts ,
- Read a book,
- Involve themselves in a hobby, or
- Increase their intellectual capital.

Self-directed learning

- Has escaped official recognition until recently.
- Is probably the oldest learning method going.
- Is the most used form of learning.

... they are engaged in **Self-directed Learning**.

PROCESS

1. **Diagnose** learning needs,
2. **Prepare** learning goals,
3. **Identify** resources for learning activities,
4. **Select** and **implement** the learning and, finally
5. **Evaluate** the outcomes (Knowles 1975).

For a comprehensive look at self – directed learning, [click here](#).

SDL AND WORK

Everyone knows work is changing, but workplace training somehow is unchanging or gets lost in the shuffle.

In this time of change, using tried and true training methods makes it tough to deal with the short life span of useful:

- Products, information,
- Methods and procedures,
- Policies, and
- General knowledge.

Something to think about.

Is it workplace training or workplace learning that needs to be looked at?

Yet the need for learning cannot be greater considering the necessity to pass on greater volumes of more sophisticated information.

In time, forms of self directed learning, *coaching* or mentoring will take the place of more and more of the classroom based training now in place.

LINKS

Strong Value of Self-Directed Learning in the Workplace: How Supervisors and Learners Gain Leaps in Learning

http://www.mapnp.org/library/trng_dev/methods/slf_drct.htm

General Summary of Findings from the First Canadian Survey of Informal Learning

http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/depts/sese/csew/nall/sur_res.htm

ED312457 89 Supporting and Facilitating Self-Directed Learning. ERIC Digest No. 93.

<http://www.sarasota.k12.fl.us/~g2k/32.htm>

For More Information...

Contact Learning Direction today!

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We know you are serious about learning. We can meet your requirements – and - we are interested in working with you.

Do you require additional information about services?

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