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# Dumbing Us Down The Hidden Curriculum Of Compulso

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*Dumbing Us  
Down The  
Hidden  
Curriculum  
Of Compulso*     2020-01-19

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**YOSEF DULCE**

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**Bob Books Set 3:  
Word Families**

Macmillan  
Education has become  
synonymous with  
schooling, but it  
doesn't have to be. As  
schooling becomes  
increasingly  
standardized and test

driven, occupying more of childhood than ever before, parents and educators are questioning the role of schooling in society. Many are now exploring and creating alternatives. In a compelling narrative that introduces historical and contemporary research on self-directed education, *Unschooled* also spotlights how a diverse group of individuals and organizations are evolving an old schooling model of education. These innovators challenge the myth that children need to be taught in order to learn. They are parents who saw firsthand how schooling can dull children's natural curiosity and exuberance and others

who decided early on to enable their children to learn without school. Educators who left public school classrooms discuss launching self-directed learning centers to allow young people's innate learning instincts to flourish, and entrepreneurs explore their disillusionment with the teach-and-test approach of traditional schooling.

*Ken Kesey's One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*

New Society Publishers  
Do you need parenting advice on how to inspire your child to love learning? Whether you homeschool or send your kids to public or private school, this is essential reading for your situation. Why? Because schooling has become a disaster.

Your child's interests and uniqueness are disregarded, and structured curriculum and standards like Common Core place them on a conveyor belt that treats all children the same. This system crushes a child's curiosity. Your child deserves better! There is a better way: one that ensures your child sees learning as a joy and provides you, the parent, with a much less stressful way to educate and empower your son or daughter. In this book, Connor Boyack shares the exciting philosophy and empowering day-to-day steps involved in passion-driven education. A child's curiosity and natural desire to learn are like a tiny flame, easily extinguished unless it's protected and given

fuel. This book will help you as a parent both protect that flame of curiosity and supply it with the fuel necessary to make it burn bright throughout your child's life. Let's ignite our children's natural love of learning! Five Things Discussed in the Book What's the problem with schools? Whether public, private, or "home," schooling is structured in a way that has significant negative outcomes for children academically, psychologically, and emotionally. To understand the solutions, you first need to review these problems. What's your goal? Too many parents simply send their children to school out of ritual and expectation, without thinking about the end result. Caring parents

must ponder the outcomes of education and what they want their children to become. Once goals are established, we can make a plan. I need solutions! It's easy to point out problems with schooling. It's more important that we review serious and attainable solutions that can help you educate your child and preserve (or restore) their natural love of learning. What are the alternatives? If schools are inherently problematic and crush a child's curiosity, what can be done? We'll review several differing approaches to education that incorporate some of the solutions listed earlier. Passion-driven education The best way to educate a child is to speak to them in a

language they already understand, using their personal interests as a "hook" to make other subjects interesting and relevant. We'll review some examples and then give you an action plan.

### **Dumbing Us Down**

Delphian Press  
Discusses how parents can create a home environment that encourages children to learn and explains what is right and wrong with traditional education.

### **The Deliberate Dumbing Down of**

**America** Da Capo  
Lifelong Books  
First published in the mid 1960s, How Children Fail began an education reform movement that continues today. In his 1982 edition, John Holt added new insights into how children

investigate the world, into the perennial problems of classroom learning, grading, testing, and into the role of the trust and authority in every learning situation. His understanding of children, the clarity of his thought, and his deep affection for children have made both *How Children Fail* and its companion volume, *How Children Learn*, enduring classics.

**The Leipzig**

**Connection** Stranger Journalism  
THE COLFAXES DIDN'T START TEACHING THEIR BOYS AT HOME TO GET THEM INTO HARVARD - BUT THAT'S WHAT HOMESCHOOLING ACCOMPLISHED! For over fifteen years, David and Micki Colfax educated their children

at home. They don't think of themselves as pioneers, though that's what they became. Unhappy with the public schools, the Colfaxes wanted the best education possible for their four sons: a program for learning that met the evolving needs of each child and gave them complete control of how and what their children learned. The results? A prescription for excellence-Harvard educations for their sons Grant, Drew, and Reed. (Their fourth son is still too young for college.) Now the Colfaxes tell how all parents can become involved in homeschooling. In a straight-talking book that reads like a frank conversation among friends, they tell what they did and how they

did it: their educational approaches, the lessons they learned, and what materials-books, equipment, educational aids-proved most useful over the years. Best of all, they show you how you can take charge of your children's education-in an invaluable sourcebook that will help you find a rewarding and successful alternative to our failing schools. [The Adventures of Snider](#) Penguin

"When Aaron and Kaleena Amuchastegui took their kids out of school to travel the globe and educate them through experiences, their children became more engaged, self-aware, curious, and passionate about learning. Now, they share their inspiring

successes and practical advice to give you the tools you need to create your own unconventional education plan, no matter what your budget..."--Page 4 of cover.

*The Underground History of American Education* Crown

For more than a decade, former New York City and State Teacher of the Year John Taylor Gatto has been among the most insightful and outspoken critics of American schooling, and an influential visionary of the future of education. Through hundreds of public talks, articles, interviews, and classroom projects, Gatto has shown decisively where our failing schools have gone wrong and what

can be done to fix them. In *A Different Kind of Teacher*, the bestselling author of *Dumbing Us Down* has collected his most important writings of the past ten years -- reports, meditations, action plans, and jeremiads -- that will change forever the reader's understanding of how our system of education really operates, and how it can be rescued. Book jacket.

[Dumbing Us Down - 25th Anniversary Edition](#) Stranger Journalism

The essence of John Holt's insight into learning and small children is captured in *Learning All The Time*. This delightful book by the influential author of *How Children Fail* and *How Children Learn* shows how children

learn to read, write, and count in their everyday life at home and how adults can respect and encourage this wonderful process. For human beings, he reminds us, learning is as natural as breathing. John Holt's wit, his gentle wisdom, and his infectious love of little children bring joy to parent and teacher alike.

*Weapons of Mass Instruction*

HarperCollins

The underground history of the American education will take you on a journey into the background, philosophy, psychology, politics, and purposes of compulsion schooling.

[Teaching Naked](#) New Society Publishers  
You've heard about "flipping your classroom"—now find

out how to do it! Introducing a new way to think about higher education, learning, and technology that prioritizes the benefits of the human dimension. José Bowen recognizes that technology is profoundly changing education and that if students are going to continue to pay enormous sums for campus classes, colleges will need to provide more than what can be found online and maximize "naked" face-to-face contact with faculty. Here, he illustrates how technology is most powerfully used outside the classroom, and, when used effectively, how it can ensure that students arrive to class more prepared for meaningful interaction

with faculty. Bowen offers practical advice for faculty and administrators on how to engage students with new technology while restructuring classes into more reactive learning environments. Walking on Water Bob Books Publications Why does school demoralise and disillusion so many pupils, undermining and eroding their self-belief, natural playfulness and individuality? Why are school teachers quitting the profession in such alarming numbers, many not even completing their professional training? Did you know that school is not even compulsory? Do you know about the alternatives? Is it not time to rediscover the power of choice for



your children's sake? This book reveals the toxic effect of the modern schooling system on both pupils and teachers alike and explores the more child-friendly options available that could save us all from the insanity of a system that is broken and rotten to its core. It is a stark wake up call for all those involved in educating our children and gives clarity and hope to parents of children who are screaming every day not to go to school. It recounts the author's experiences as both pupil and teacher in various learning environments and includes testimonies from current and former pupils and teachers as well as parents of children being educated in all

kinds of environments. Short-term and long-term damage is being caused to children who would be better served outside the stifling classroom regime of a modern school or by a system that radically changes its approach. Teachers are working in impossibly stressful conditions with too many demands on their precious time and energy. The system is in meltdown. The book looks at the havoc created in individual lives as well as to society as a whole and investigates how this dysfunction has come about and just as importantly the possible agenda behind it. Alternatives to the mainstream model are explored and inspirational examples are given of governments and

schools around the globe that are acknowledging that schooling needs to change drastically and urgently for the sake of future generations. Educating your children at home is the final focus as the reader is reassured that it is not against the law to educate your own children (at least not in the UK) and it may well be the best solution until society wakes up to the full extent of the problem. If you have ever wondered what might have held you back in life; if you still believe school is compulsory; if you have children begging you every Sunday evening not to have to go to school the next morning; or if you are a teacher feeling trapped and looking for a way

forward, then this book is definitely for you! Unschooling New Society Publishers  
The transformation of schooling from a twelve-year jail sentence to freedom to learn. John Taylor Gatto's Weapons of Mass Instruction , now available in paperback, focuses on mechanisms of traditional education which cripple imagination, discourage critical thinking, and create a false view of learning as a byproduct of rote-memorization drills. Gatto's earlier book, Dumbing Us Down , introduced the now-famous expression of the title into the common vernacular. Weapons of Mass Instruction adds another chilling metaphor to the brief

against conventional schooling. Gatto demonstrates that the harm school inflicts is rational and deliberate. The real function of pedagogy, he argues, is to render the common population manageable. To that end, young people must be conditioned to rely upon experts, to remain divided from natural alliances and to accept disconnections from their own lived experiences. They must at all costs be discouraged from developing self-reliance and independence. Escaping this trap requires a strategy Gatto calls "open source learning" which imposes no artificial divisions between learning and life. Through this alternative approach

our children can avoid being indoctrinated- only then can they achieve self-knowledge, good judgment, and courage.

*Dumbing Down Our Kids* Da Capo Lifelong Books

A children's epic rhyme about a sophisticated and cultured spider named Snider, who dreams of becoming a CIA spy and his subsequent adventures working for the CIA.

**Dumbing Down**

**America** Destiny Image Publishers

An emotional, evocative coming-of-age story about one deeply intelligent and perceptive girl's attempt to find her own voice in prerevolutionary Iran "An immensely moving, extraordinarily eloquent, and

passionate memoir.”—Harold Bloom  
 Roya Hakakian was twelve years old in 1979 when the revolution swept through Tehran. The daughter of an esteemed poet, she grew up in a household that hummed with intellectual life. Family gatherings were punctuated by witty, satirical exchanges and spontaneous recitations of poetry. But the Hakakians were also part of the very small Jewish population in Iran who witnessed the iron fist of the Islamic fundamentalists increasingly tightening its grip. It is with the innocent confusion of youth that Roya describes her discovery of a swastika—“a plus sign gone awry, a dark reptile with four hungry

claws”—painted on the wall near her home. As a schoolgirl she watched as friends accused of reading blasphemous books were escorted from class by Islamic Society guards, never to return. Only much later did Roya learn that she was spared a similar fate because her teacher admired her writing. Hakakian relates in the most poignant, and at times painful, ways what life was like for women after the country fell into the hands of Islamic fundamentalists who had declared an insidious war against them, but we see it all through the eyes of a strong, youthful optimist who somehow came up in the world believing that she was different, knowing she

was special. A wonderfully evocative story, Journey from the Land of No reveals an Iran most readers have not encountered and re-creates a time and place dominated by religious fanaticism, violence, and fear with an open heart.

Naturally Healing

Autism Monarch Notes

\* AN INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER \* From the New York Times bestselling author of The Vanishing American Adult, an intimate and urgent assessment of the existential crisis facing our nation. Something is wrong. We all know it. American life expectancy is declining for a third straight year. Birth rates are dropping. Nearly half of us think the other political party isn't just

wrong; they're evil. We're the richest country in history, but we've never been more pessimistic. What's causing the despair? In Them, bestselling author and U.S. senator Ben Sasse argues that, contrary to conventional wisdom, our crisis isn't really about politics. It's that we're so lonely we can't see straight—and it bubbles out as anger. Local communities are collapsing. Across the nation, little leagues are disappearing, Rotary clubs are dwindling, and in all likelihood, we don't know the neighbor two doors down. Work isn't what we'd hoped: less certainty, few lifelong coworkers, shallow purpose. Stable families and enduring friendships—life's

fundamental pillars—are in statistical freefall. As traditional tribes of place evaporate, we rally against common enemies so we can feel part of a team. No institutions command widespread public trust, enabling foreign intelligence agencies to use technology to pick the scabs on our toxic divisions. We're in danger of half of us believing different facts than the other half, and the digital revolution throws gas on the fire. There's a path forward—but reversing our decline requires something radical: a rediscovery of real places and human-to-human relationships. Even as technology nudges us to become rootless, Sasse shows how only a recovery of

rootedness can heal our lonely souls. America wants you to be happy, but more urgently, America needs you to love your neighbor and connect with your community. Fixing what's wrong with the country depends on it.

[A Different Kind of Teacher](#) New Society Publishers

In this book you will discover "how good teachers across America have been forced to use controversial, non-academic methodology in their classrooms; how "school choice" is being used to further dangerous reform goals, and how home schooling and private education are especially vulnerable; how workforce training (school-to-work) is an essential part of an

overall plan for a global economy, and how this plan will shortcircuit your child's future career plans and opportunities; [and] how the international, national, regional, state and local agendas for education reform are all interconnected and have been for decades. The deliberate dumbing down of America is a chronological history of the past 100+ years of education reform. Each chapter takes a period of history and recounts the significant events, including important geopolitical and societal contextual information. Citations from government plans, policy documents, and key writings by leading reformers record the rise of the modern

education reform movement"--Website: <http://www.deliberatedumbingdown.com/book.htm>.

**Passion-Driven Education** Jossey-Bass  
From the New York Times bestselling author of *How We Got To Now* and *Farsighted* Forget everything you've ever read about the age of dumbed-down, instant-gratification culture. In this provocative, unfailingly intelligent, thoroughly researched, and surprisingly convincing big idea book, Steven Johnson draws from fields as diverse as neuroscience, economics, and media theory to argue that the pop culture we soak in every day—from *Lord of the Rings* to *Grand Theft Auto* to *The*

Simpsons—has been growing more sophisticated with each passing year, and, far from rotting our brains, is actually posing new cognitive challenges that are actually making our minds measurably sharper.

After reading *Everything Bad is Good for You*, you will never regard the glow of the video game or television screen the same way again. With a new afterword by the author.

*The Longest Walk* Da Capo Lifelong Books  
Remember the days of longing for the hands on the classroom clock to move faster? Most of us would say we love to learn, but we hated school. Why is that? What happens to creativity and individuality as we pass through the

educational system? *Walking on Water* is a startling and provocative look at teaching, writing, creativity, and life by a writer increasingly recognized for his passionate and articulate critique of modern civilization.

This time Derrick Jensen brings us into his classroom--whether college or maximum security prison--where he teaches writing. He reveals how schools perpetuate the great illusion that happiness lies outside of ourselves and that learning to please and submit to those in power makes us into lifelong clock-watchers. As a writing teacher Jensen guides his students out of the confines of traditional education to find their own voices, freedom,



and creativity. Jensen's great gift as a teacher and writer is to bring us fully alive at the same moment he is making us confront our losses and count our defeats. It is at the center of *Walking on Water*, a book that is not only a hard-hitting and sometimes scathing critique of our current educational system and not only a hands-on method for learning how to write, but, like Julia Cameron's *The Artist's Way*, a lesson on how to connect to the core of our creative selves, to the miracle of waking up and arriving breathless (but with dry feet) on the far shore.

*The Underground History of American Education* Routledge  
HOMESCHOOLING A HOPE FOR AMERICA is

a collection of articles taken from *The Voluntarist*, a newsletter with a libertarian outlook which has been published since 1982. The anthology has been assembled by Carl Watner (from many of his past articles, as well as those of others), and contains an original Foreword by John Taylor Gatto. This anthology argues against government education in a unique way. One who advocates voluntarism opposes government schools, not because he opposes schooling but, because he opposes coercion, which is to be found in government taxation, compulsory attendance laws, and in the monopolization of public services. Most

of us would agree that there should not be any state religion; that religion should not be supported by taxation; and that people should not be compelled to attend religious services. Why shouldn't the principles of voluntarism in religion apply to education? All government depends on the cooperation and/or tacit consent of the majority of its citizens. When the state could no longer use government churches to legitimize its rule of the divine right of kings, some other institution had to be found that would induce consent among the masses. Government schools became the chosen instrument to produce good citizens for the state. Indoctrinate the young: then they will

support the state for the rest of their lives. America is at a cross roads of cultural and economic disintegration, yet voluntarists believe that there is hope. It is to be found in home schooling. Rather than cursing the darkness, parents can light one small candle of wisdom and learning and pass it along to the next generation. "Ages of experience testify that the only way society can be improved is by the individualist method; ... that is, the method of each one doing his best to improve one." This is the quiet or patient way of changing society because it concentrates upon bettering the character of men and women as individuals. As the individual units

change, the improvement in society will take care of itself. In other words, if one takes care of the means, the end will take care of itself.

Homeschooling: a Hope for America  
Chicago Review Press

Allow your children to experience the adventure, freedom, and wonder of childhood with this practical guide that provides all the information, inspiration, and advice you need for creating a modern, quality homeschool education. Inspired by the spirit of Henry David Thoreau—"All good things are wild and free"—mother of five Ainsley Arment founded Wild + Free. This growing online community of mothers and families want their

children to receive a quality education at home by challenging their intellectual abilities and nurturing their sense of curiosity, joy and awe—the essence of a positive childhood. The homeschool approach of past generations is gone—including the stigma of socially awkward kids, conservative clothes, and a classroom setting replicated in the home. The Wild + Free movement is focused on a love of nature, reading great books, pursuing interests and hobbies, making the entire world a classroom, and prolonging the wonder of childhood, an appealing philosophy that is unpacked in the pages of this book *The Call of the Wild and Free* offers advice,

information, and positive encouragement for parents considering homeschooling, those currently in the trenches looking for

inspiration, as well as parents, educators, and caregivers who want supplementary resources to enhance their kids' traditional educations.