

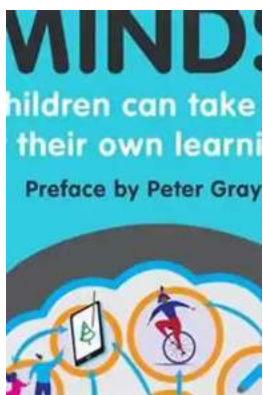
# Unlocking the Power: How Children Can Take Control Of Their Own Learning

Education is a crucial aspect of a child's development. It provides them with essential skills, knowledge, and tools necessary to navigate through life successfully. Traditionally, children have been passive recipients of information, relying on teachers to impart knowledge. However, a growing body of research suggests that empowering children to take control of their own learning can be incredibly beneficial for their overall development.

In today's rapidly changing world, the ability to learn independently is becoming increasingly crucial. By fostering a sense of ownership and autonomy over their education, children can acquire the skills necessary to adapt, problem-solve, and become lifelong learners. So, how can children take control of their own learning?

## 1. Encourage Curiosity

Children are naturally curious beings. By nurturing and encouraging their curiosity, parents and educators can create an environment that fosters a love for learning. Encouraging children to ask questions, explore different topics, and pursue their interests can ignite their passion for learning and empower them to seek knowledge independently.



## Changing Our Minds: How children can take control of their own learning

by Dr. Dennis Murphy (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 1968 KB

Text-to-Speech : Enabled

Screen Reader : Supported

Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 278 pages  
X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled



## 2. Foster Self-Directed Learning

Giving children the freedom to choose their learning path plays a significant role in developing their autonomy and decision-making skills. Offering options in their educational journey allows children to discover their strengths, interests, and preferred learning styles. By embracing self-directed learning, children can engage in activities that resonate with them, leading to increased motivation, engagement, and retention of knowledge.

## 3. Set Goals and Track Progress

Goal setting is an important skill that empowers children to take ownership of their learning. By setting both short-term and long-term goals, children can identify personal objectives, create action plans, and measure their progress. This process instills a sense of responsibility and teaches children valuable skills such as organization, time management, and self-reflection.

## 4. Teach Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

Equipping children with critical thinking and problem-solving skills is essential for them to become independent learners. Encouraging them to think critically, analyze information, and evaluate different perspectives allows children to develop a deeper understanding of the subjects they study. This skill set enables

children to navigate complex challenges and approach learning with a sense of curiosity and inquiry.

## **5. Embrace Mistakes and Failure**

Fostering a growth mindset involves embracing mistakes and failure as essential components of the learning process. Children need to understand that making mistakes is an opportunity for growth and learning. Encouraging them to take risks, persevere through challenges, and learn from their failures helps children develop resilience, adaptability, and self-confidence.

## **6. Utilize Technology as a Learning Tool**

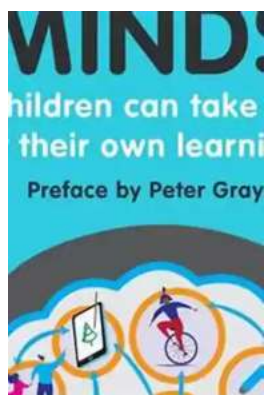
In today's technologically advanced world, children have access to an abundance of information and resources. By utilizing technology as a learning tool, children can explore different subjects, engage in interactive learning experiences, and access a vast array of educational materials. Whether it's through educational apps, online courses, or virtual experiences, technology provides children with endless opportunities to take control of their own learning.

## **7. Cultivate a Supportive Environment**

The role of parents, educators, and the broader community cannot be understated in empowering children to take control of their own learning. A supportive and nurturing environment provides children with the necessary guidance, encouragement, and resources. By creating a safe space for exploration, collaboration, and open dialogue, children can thrive and become active agents in their educational journey.

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Empowering children to take control of their own learning is a transformative approach that nurtures their natural curiosity, fosters independence, and equips them with essential skills for the future. By embracing self-directed learning, setting goals, nurturing autonomy, and creating a supportive environment, children can unlock their true potential and become lifelong learners.



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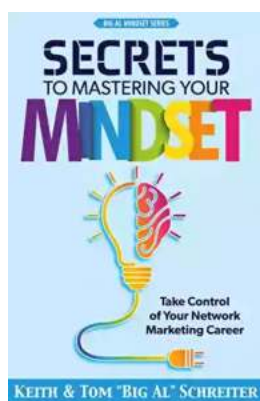


Children are born full of curiosity, eager to participate in the world. They learn as they live, with enthusiasm and joy. Then we send them to school. We stop them from playing and actively exploring their interests, telling them it's more important to sit still and listen. The result is that for many children, their motivation to learn drops dramatically. The joy of the early years is replaced with apathy and anxiety.

This is not inevitable. We are socialised to believe that schooling is synonymous with education, but it's only one approach. Self-directed education puts the child back in control of their learning. This enables children, including those diagnosed

with special educational needs, to flourish in their own time and on their own terms. It enables us to put wellbeing at the centre of education.

Changing Our Minds brings together research, theory and practice on learning. It includes interviews with influential thinkers in the field of self-directed education and examples from families alongside practical advice. This essential guide will give you an understanding of why self-directed education makes sense, how it works, and what to do to put it into action yourself.



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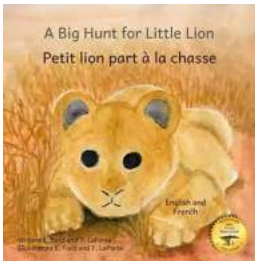
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