

# The Intersection of Learning Styles Learning Differences Learning Disabilities

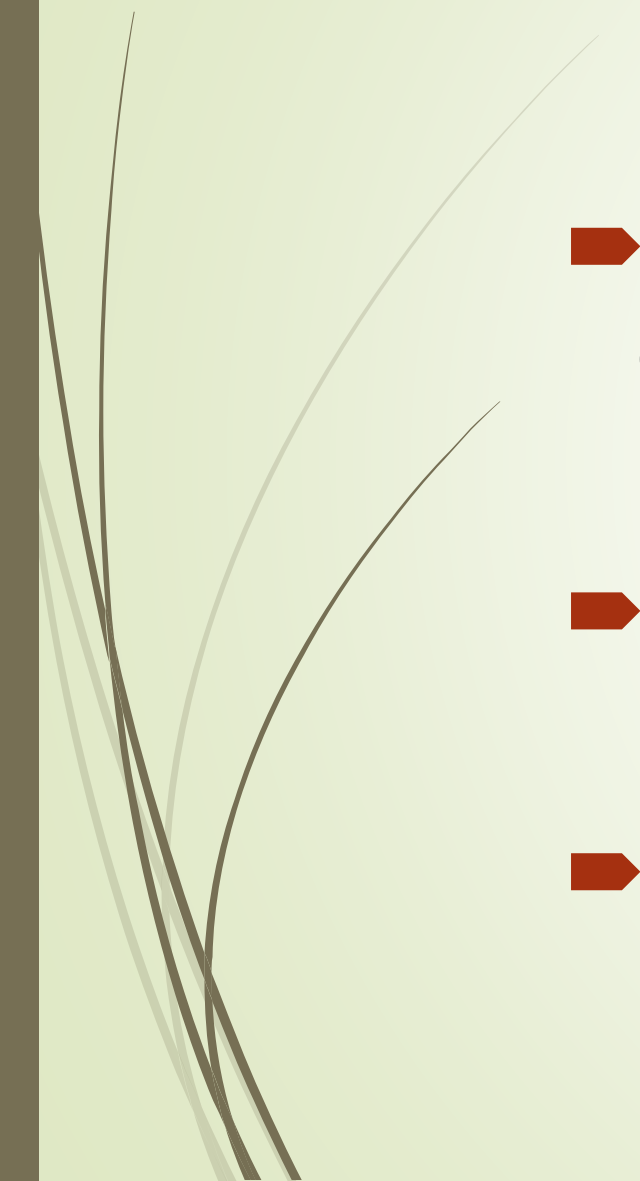
Laura DiGalbo M.Ed., CRC, LPC

ldgalbo@aol.com

860 841-7212



# LEARNING : What do We Mean?

- There is no consensus among the experts!
  - Two “schools of thought”
  - Functional And Cognitive
- 



# Current Definitions: 1996

Learning is relatively permanent change in behavior brought about by practice or experience

## **Functional Definition**

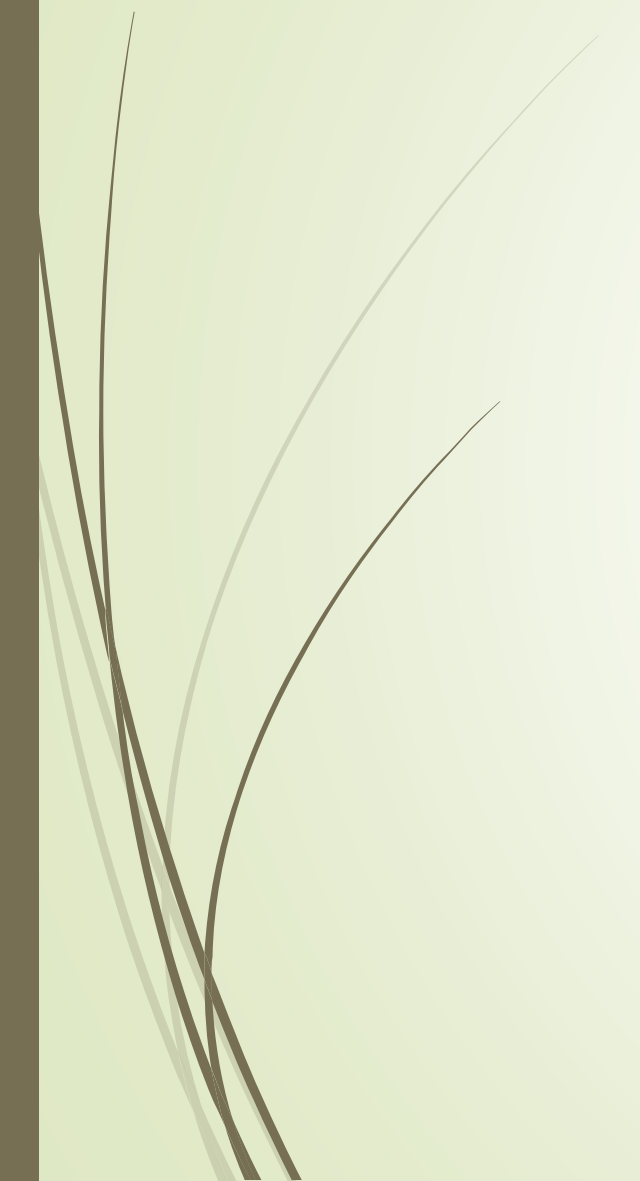
Learning is a process of stable modification in stimulus response developed as consequence of the interaction of environment and anatomical change

## **Mechanistic or Cognitive Definition**



# Combining the Two Definitions

Learning can be defined as:  
Changes in behavior from experience  
and /or  
Changes in the brain that results in  
experiences





# Remember

There is no Guarantee that

OUR TEACHING

Will create

THEIR LEARNING





# Teaching and Learning are Complementary

Teaching is a process of introducing information

Learning is demonstrated by USING that information

And/or

Anatomical evidence of change in brain function.





By systematically reviewing every student's relationship to:

**Learning Style**

**Learning Differences**

**Learning Disabilities**

We increase the odds for every student to learn





# Learning Style

## PREFERENCE

Audio

Visual [symbols; images]

Visual [ symbols; reading]

Person interaction

Kinesthetic







We Teach to preferences  
by using

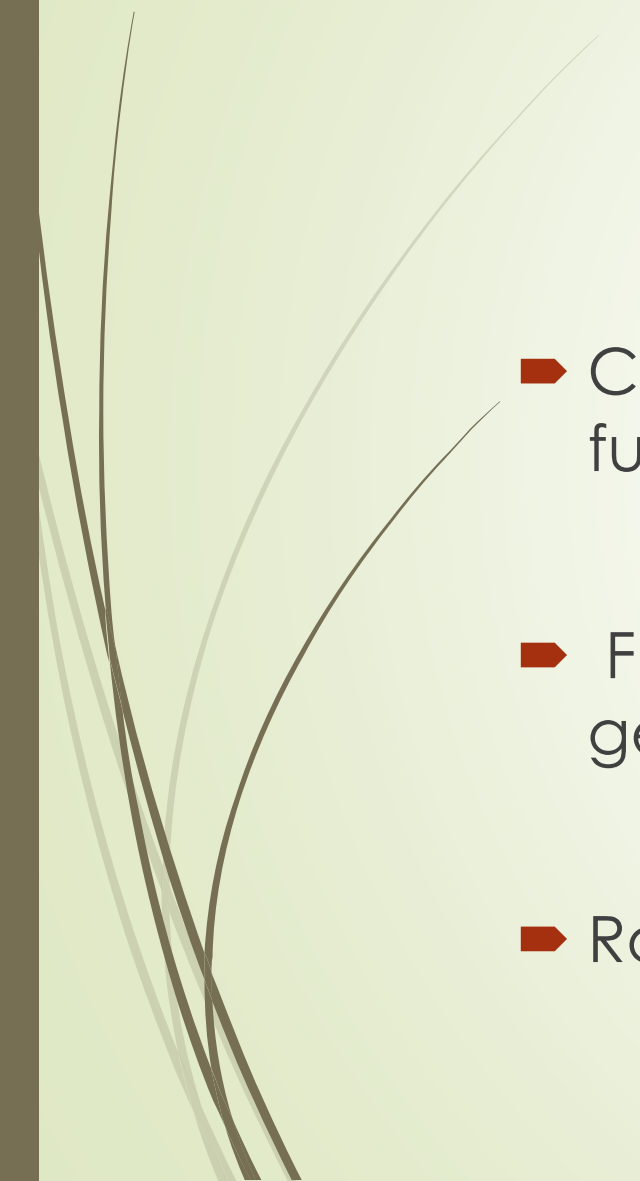


UNIVERSAL DESIGN for LEARNING



# Learning Differences

## Medical Connotation

- 
- Caused by Biological changes in brain structure and function
  - Full brain development is taking longer than in past generations
  - Role of Child Rearing



# Learning Differences [cont.]

## Educational Connotation

**Multitasking** slows memory, increases impulsivity

Primary use of **Media** in classroom can negatively effect academic outcomes



# Dilemma

Does **multimedia** influence multitasking issues?

OR

Do people who have **multitasking** issues tend to use media more often?





*Learning Disability*  
*Educational, Medical and Legal*  
*Connotations*

- **Disorder in one or more of the central nervous system processes**
- **Involved in perceiving, understanding and/or using concepts through spoken or written language or non verbal means**
- **Which manifests itself with a functional deficit in one or more of the following areas:**



## Learning Disabilities [cont.]

Attention

Reading

Reasoning

Writing

Information Processing

Spelling

Memory

Calculation

Communication

Co-Ordination

Social Competence

Emotional Maturity



# Cultural Connotation

Language of

Learning Differences

Are being used in *laymen*  
*conversation* as “socially correct”



# We promote learning by

- 1] Creating universally designed culture
  - 2] Limiting activities that require “multitasking”
  - 3] Limiting use of media and increase experiential activities
  - 4] Utilizing individual recommendations for students diagnosed  
with  
Learning Disabilities
- 





# It is in our Classrooms

Where the **Intersection** of  
Learning Preference  
Learning Differences  
And  
Learning Disability  
Take Place

\*\*Educators create the space for  
True Learning\*\*



# THANK YOU

Laura DiGalbo M. Ed, CRC,LPC

860-841-7212

Ldgalbo@aol.com

