

Books in Support of Virtue Education

***“For the book saith, al that is writen for oure doctrine is written.”
--Geoffrey Chaucer, from the “Retraction” of The Canterbury Tales***

I’m a big believer that inspiration and direction can come from anywhere: the World is generally untidy when it comes to storing its wisdom, so you never know what useful nuggets you might find where. I offer this as explanation should you come across something on this list that makes you go, “Huh – curious addition.”

Essentially, a book makes the list if it A) was enjoyable to read (i.e. not a jargony slog), B) has more than one provocative idea, and C) offers positive suggestions. Hopefully you’ll find something intriguing, and hopefully you’ll have a similar reaction.

Please feel free to print and/or share. Enjoy!



General Thinking about Education and Learning

Baehr, Jason. [*Deep in Thought: A Practical Guide to Teaching for Intellectual Virtues*](#). Harvard Education Press, 2022.

Dewey, John. [*The Child and the Curriculum*](#). University of Chicago Press, 1902.

Illich, Ivan. [*Deschooling Society*](#). Harper & Row, 1971.

Kirschner, Paul A. and Carl Hendrick. [*How Learning Happens, 2nd ed.*](#). Routledge, 2024.

Mehta, Jal and Sarah M. Fine. [*In Search of Deeper Learning: The Quest to Remake the American High School*](#). Harvard University Press, 2020.

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. [*How People Learn II: Learners, Contexts, and Cultures*](#). The National Academies Press, 2018.

Tyack, David. [*The One Best System: A History of American Urban Education*](#). Harvard University Press, 1974.



Writing about Virtues

OVERALL

Baehr, Jason. [Educating for Intellectual Virtues](http://jasonbaehr.wordpress.com). jasonbaehr.wordpress.com, published 2013.

Baehr, Jason. [*The Inquiring Mind: On Intellectual Virtues and Virtue Epistemology*](#). Oxford University Press, 2011.

Battaly, Heather, ed. [*The Routledge Handbook of Virtue Epistemology*](#). Oxford University Press, 2018.

Battaly, Heather, ed. [*Virtue and Vice, Moral and Epistemic*](#). MIT Press, 2010.

Bregman, Rutger, [*Moral Ambition*](#). Little Brown & Co, 2025.

Peterson, Christopher and Martin E. P. Seligman. [*Character Strengths and Virtues: A Handbook and Classification*](#). Oxford University Press, 2004.

Ritchhart, Ron. [*Intellectual Character: What It Is, Why It Matters, and How to Get It*](#). John Wiley & Sons, 2002.

Roberts, Robert C. & W. Jay Wood. [*Intellectual Virtues: An Essay in Regulative Epistemology*](#). Oxford University Press, 2007.

Zagzebski, Linda Trinkaus. [*Virtues of the Mind: An Inquiry into the Nature of Virtue and the Ethical Foundations of Knowledge*](#). Cambridge University Press, 1996.

CURIOSITY

Berlyne, Daniel E. [*Conflict, Arousal, and Curiosity*](#). McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1960.

Engel, Susan. [*The Hungry Mind: The Origins of Curiosity in Childhood*](#). Harvard University Press, 2015.

IMAGINATION

Phillips, James and James Morley, eds. [*Imagination and Its Pathologies*](#). The MIT Press, 2003.

Taylor, Marjorie, ed. [*The Oxford Handbook of the Development of Imagination*](#). Oxford University Press, 2013.



Connolly, F. Michael, et al. [*The SAGE Handbook of Curriculum and Instruction*](#). SAGE Publications, 2008.

Petersen, Neal, et al. [*Innovative Curriculum Design: Bridging the Theory-Practice Divide in Work-Integrated Learning to Foster Self-Directed Learning*](#). AOSIS, 2023.

Pieters, Jules, et al., eds. [*Collaborative Curriculum Design for Sustainable Innovation and Teacher Learning*](#). Springer Nature Switzerland AG, 2020.

Williamson, Ben. [*The Future of the Curriculum: School Knowledge in the Digital Age*](#). MIT Press, 2013.



Other

Balshaw, Maria. [*Gathering of Strangers: Why Museums Matter*](#). Tate Publishing, 2024.

Bregman, Rutger. [*Humankind*](#). Little Brown & Co, 2021.

Chambers, Becky. [*Monk and Robot*](#). Tordotcom, 2025.

Chimera, John. [*Chimera*](#). Random House, 1972.

Feynman, Richard. [*“Surely You’re Joking, Mr Feynman!” – Adventures of a Curious Character*](#). Vintage Press, 1985.

Quinn, Daniel. [*Ishmael*](#). Bantam, 1995.

Ritchie, Hannah. [*Not the End of the World*](#). Penguin Random House, 2024.