ET Books

Expansive Education
Teaching learners for the real world
Bill Lucas, Guy Claxton and Ellen Spencer
Acer Press and Open University Press
ISBN 9781742861104
$24.95 (ACER Bookshop)
The authors of this interesting book work at the Centre for Real-World Learning, University of Winchester in the UK.

They have coined the expression ‘expansive education’ to describe an approach to education which is increasingly being taken up internationally.

They explore the purpose of education in a rapidly changing world. In this context they analyse the thinking and science behind the idea of expansive education and describe some of the pioneering work that is being undertaken.

Expansive education, the authors state, is expansive in four senses:
• It seeks to expand the goals of education
• Expanding young people’s capacity to deal with the tests of life
• Expanding the compass beyond the school gates
• Expansive education has profound implications for the role of teachers.

The book showcases schools and organisations that are developing methods of teaching and learning that cultivate powerful learners.

Morality tales for younger children

Monster
Lynette Duffy
Illustrated by Ann Marie Finn
Self published
PO Box 828 Ipswich NSW 4305
ISBN 9780646560045

My Friend Inchy
Lynette Duffy
Illustrated by Ann Marie Finn
Self published
PO Box 828 Ipswich NSW 4305
ISBN 9780646560052

My Friend Inchy is a tale about Timothy, a small boy who lives in a little house with his mother. He’s lonely and wants a pet. Sent on a shopping errant, he buys a puppy with the grocery money and takes it home. Mum, of course, doesn’t want a dog so Ben repeats the process with a kitten, a canary, a mouse and finally a frog – which escapes down the drain. He finds the ideal pet when he picks up a leaf and sees a caterpillar on it. He calls it Inchy because that’s the way it walks up his arm. The caterpillar thrives, turns into a chrysalis and emerges as a butterfly, which flies out of the window. Tears turn to smiles when the butterly returns and walks up his arm like Inchy used to do.

The Tale of Brave Ritchie
Shan Laks
Illustrated by Emma Stuart
Self published
ISBN 978479728824
RR $15.00
Available at barnesnoble.com and amazon.com

You get three cautionary tales for the price on one with this book. The hero is a rat called Ritchie. He faces dangerous strangers in the forest, bullying by a fat rat called Cheet, and discovers the good times to be had by losing weight, getting fit and playing footy.

The author is a retired primary teacher with a Masters in Education and a Certificate in Children’s Writing. Born in Fiji, her career in teaching covers several decades in Australia. During her school years she was a curriculum coordinator and mentor to student and new teachers. She also served on the Board of Teacher Education at the University of Northern Territory.

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