



# Encouraging Curiosity: The Value to Students, Residents and Faculty



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FAMILY PHYSICIANS

We do not learn from  
experience...we learn  
from reflecting on  
experience.

John Dewey

QuoteAddict



## Curious about us?



Abbie  
Jacobs



Harini  
Kumar



Deborah  
Taylor

## Objectives

- Discuss **why** curiosity is **vital** as it pertains to resident education
- Identify **barriers** to advocating for curiosity in resident education and implement strategies to **overcome** them
- Utilize an **advocacy/inquiry** approach when giving feedback, mentoring or dealing with conflict
- Apply “curiosity focused” **strategies** to patients, learners and faculty

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**Curiosity is the wick in the candle  
of learning.**

*William Arthur Ward*

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# What is curiosity?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FGeRo-efyp0>

Webster's Dictionary: *the urge to investigate, to seek after knowledge, to gratify the mind with new information or objects of interest*

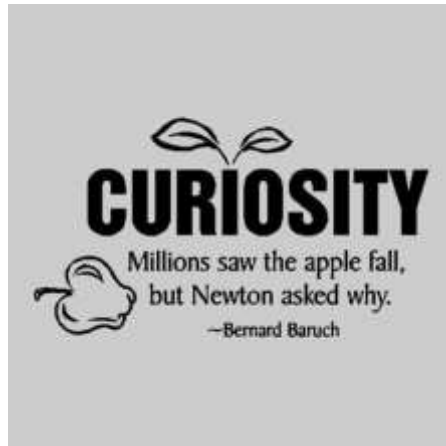
Merriam-Webster Student Dictionary definition:  
*an eager desire to learn and often to learn what does not concern one.*

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## What does curiosity look like?



## Benefits of an Inquiring Mind



- Health
- Intelligence
  - Social Relationships
- Happiness
- Meaning

<https://experiencelife.com/article/the-power-of-curiosity/>

## The Importance of Curiosity to Resident Learners

- Avoids premature closure
- Improves patient safety
- Better patient engagement
- Fosters relationships
- Promotes self-reflection
- Facilitates life-long learning



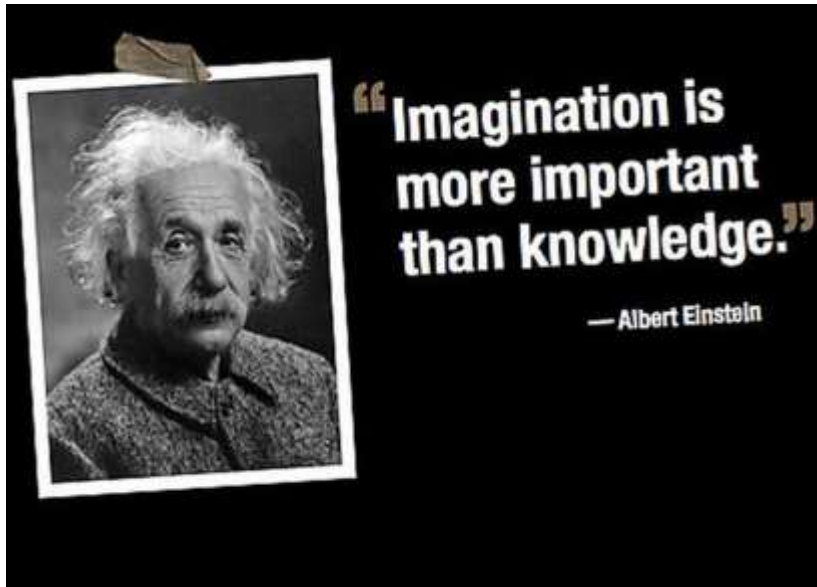


## Barriers to Curiosity



- Time
- Over/Under-confidence
- Passive education
- Hierarchical, unsafe learning environment
- Avoid “hard” emotions
- Information gaps

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## Inquisitiveness = Human Curiosity

- Human trait
- Reliant on language
- Directed toward interpersonal understanding
- Essential to the development of empathy
- Given to examination or investigation
- Inclination to ask questions
- Curious about the affairs of others

## 3 Types of Human Curiosity

- Intellectual
  - Goal = acquisition of knowledge
  - Driven by contradictory facts
- Social
  - Goal = understand another's experience
- Affective
  - Goal = pursuit of pleasure in novel or stimulating situations



- How do you ignite and/or sustain your residents' curiosity?
- Do you assess competency in this area?
- How do you nurture faculty curiosity?



# A Case

## Part 1

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## Curiosity with Patients

- Hidden Curriculum
- Modeling
- Precepting
- M&M Conferences
- Reflective Writing



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# Case Part 2

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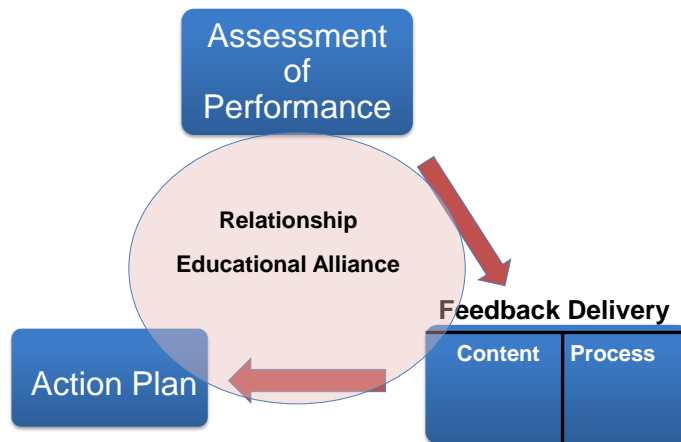
Teaching is not the  
mere imparting of  
knowledge but the  
cultivation of an  
inquiring mind.

Jiddu Krishnamurti

QuoteAddicts

## Curiosity with the Learner & Faculty

# The Educational/Therapeutic Alliance



# Case Part 3



## Faculty Development

- What facilitates a “culture” of curiosity?
- Have you created a safe learning environment that encourages curiosity? Would your learners agree?
- How do we intentionally nurture curiosity in learners?
- What educational activities feed learner curiosity?

- SNAPPS
- Case Base Learning
- Embedded reflective writing
- Flipped Classroom
- Presentations based on learner ?s
- Encouraging Patient as Teacher



## Take Home Points



## References

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