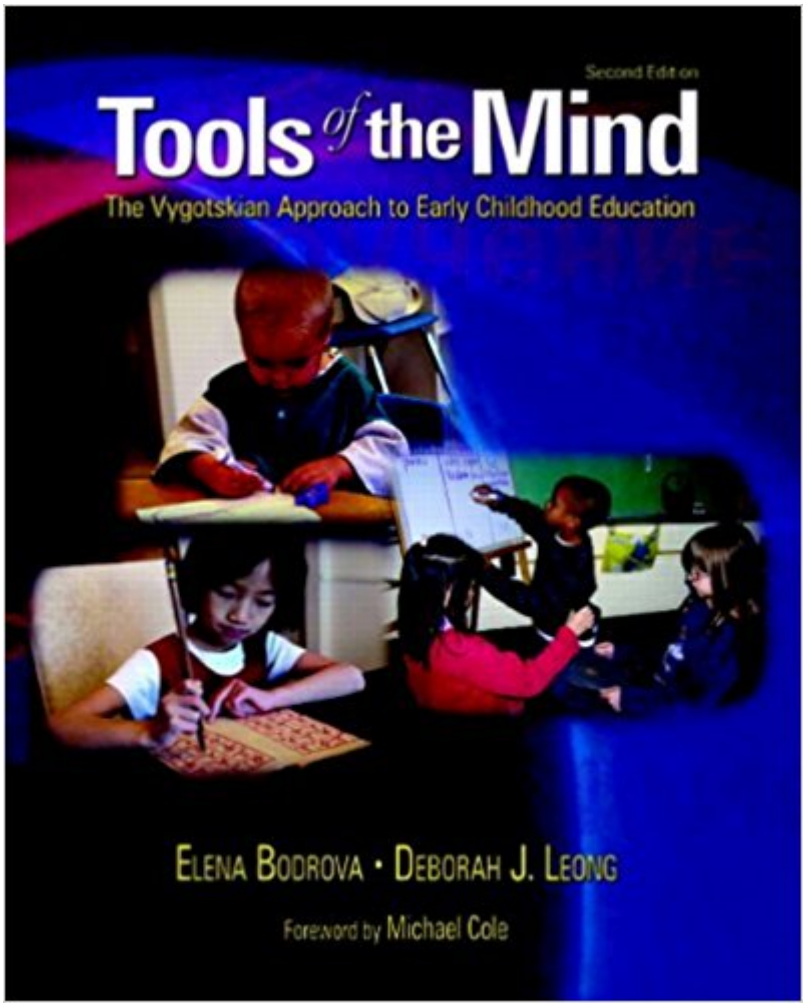
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Tools Of The Mind: The Vygotskian Approach To Early Childhood Education (2nd Edition)



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Synopsis

As the only text of its kind, this book provides in-depth information about Vygotsky's theories, neo-Vygotskians' findings, and concrete explanations and strategies that instruct teachers how to influence student learning and development.Ã Â Key changes to this edition include a new chapter on dynamic assessment, separate and expanded chapters on developmental accomplishments of infants and toddlers, preschool/kindergarten, and primary grades and on supporting those accomplishments, and elaborations of Vygotsky's ideas from neo-Vygotskians from Russia. Ã Â FEATURES: Ã Â Written for the beginning student, the book provides a clear discussion of Vygotskian principles including...a historical overview and aÃ Â complete chapter on the Ã¢â ¬Å“Zone of Proximal Development,Ã¢â ¬Â• (ZPD). Each section of the book builds on the other...framework, strategies, and applications of the Vygotskian approach. The work of Vygotsky is compared in a fair and balanced way with the work of Piaget. Examples and activities have been class-tested in a variety of classroom environments including a Head Start program, private preschool, and in the Denver Public Schools.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This unique text provides in-depth information about major concepts and principles of the cultural-historical theory developed by Lev Vygotsky, his students and colleagues, as well as three generations of neo-Vygotskian scholars in Russia and in the West. Tools of the Mind enables teachers to arm young children with the mental tools necessary for learning. Ã Â Concrete

explanations and strategies on how to scaffold young childrenÃ¢â ¬â„¢s learning and development are provided throughout the text.Ã Â These are a product of 15 years of collaboration between the authors and early childhood teachers from diverse programs across the United States, most of which serve children from at-risk populations. Ã Â Key changes to this expanded edition include: Separate chapters on developmental accomplishments of infants and toddlers, preschoolers/kindergartners, and primary grade children, each followed by a chapter on supporting those accomplishments Additional strategies for supporting children with special needs A new chapter on dynamic assessment as an application of the zone of proximal development Ã Â Research findings and practical applications from the neo-Vygotskian approach

Elena Bodrova is a senior researcher at Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL) in Denver, Colorado.Ã Â Prior to her coming to the United States, she was a senior researcher at the Russian Center for Educational Innovations and the Russian Institute for Preschool Education.Ã Â She received her Ph.D. from the Academy of Pedagogical Sciences, Moscow, Russia, and her M.A. from Moscow State University.Ã Â In addition to her work with Dr. Leong, she co-authored the book, For the Love of Words:Ã Â Vocabulary Instruction That Works, Grades K-6 (Jossey-Bass) with Diane E. Paynter and Jane K. Doty. Ã Â Deborah J. Leong is a professor of psychology and the director of the Center for Improving Early Learning (CIEL) at Metropolitan State College of Denver.Ã Â She received her Ph.D. from Stanford University and her M.Ed. from Harvard University.Ã Â In addition to her work with Dr. Bodrova, she is co-author with Oralie McAfee of Assessing and Guiding Young Children's Development and Learning (Allyn & Bacon) that is now in its fourth edition.

The content of this book is great but I am very disappointed with the physical product. For a text costing over $30 I expect decent quality pages. The paper used is so thin it feels like phone book paper and all notes show through to the other side making it difficult to read. I hope the publisher will consider using a higher grade paper. This photo isn’t great, but note how transparent the paper is.

As a student studying pre-school programs I’ve written a couple papers based on Tools of the Mind and really enjoyed this book. I am kindof unable to give a good review for laypersons however, and I am uncertain how it reads without a good background in child development. Ideally, I would have enjoyed more "how to" materials (what Tools of the Mind really looks like) and some information on how the system has worked in studies. I have read a couple such studies which showed that

children exposed to a TotM curriculum at an early age showed better self-regulation and less negative behaviors than controls, and statistically insignificant (but present) improved cognitive abilities and literacy.I would not recommend this book for a parent, but certainly for someone interested in child development and educational philosophies and systems.See this new york times article on the system here: nytimes.com/2009/09/27/magazine/27tools-t.html?pagewanted=1

This book explains Vygotsky's approach to child development! It is easy to read and easy to understand! While Vygotsky is not my favorite child development theorist, this book does a wonderful job at making everything come together and make sense! Highly recommend to anyone working with children!

excelentÃ Â¡ I wish it was in spanish but it is very easy to read it.

I bought this because of an introduction I received via one of HH the Dalai Lama's Mind and Life conferences where this approach was mentionedAs a parent there are keys here that can help, but it is clearly aimed at a more professional audiencel've gotten some good and useful nuggets, but it's slow going for meWell worth the time spent - just a little above my level

This is a "must read" for anyone looking to understand and apply Vygotskian theory. Using mediators to help children develop self regulatory skills and habits is a gift for teacher and child alike.

The chapters are short and to the point. However I think it is in need of an update. It's a small textbook and yet it provides good information. It's a great investment for students going into the psychology field.

Great book.

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