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| Thinker | Main philosophy | Major theory | Rules | Alignment |
| Jerome Bruner | Any subject can be taught to any child at any stage of development, so long as the manner in which it is presented is proper; all children have natural curiosity and desire to learn, but if task is too difficult, they become bored | Cognitive psychology with others in perception, learning, and memory; developmental states of cognition (borrowed from Piaget); scaffolded learning; spiral curriculum | * Problem solving * Solid framework to keep from wandering too far afield * Process learning, not content | I would agree with this somewhat in that you need to work with children at all ages and scaffold learning. Baseball coaching for me is an example of this. |
| John Dewey | In order for democratic society to survive and flourish, individuals must be well-informed and engaged to promote human interests; learning by doing; problem solving & critical thinking | Pragmatism; progressive & liberal movement in education; Develop educational philosophy to meet needs of changing democratic society; rejected dualism between being and experience; subject to change; experiential inquiry | * Experiential learning * Individualized learning * Project work, action learning, workshops, simulations * Fight the “enemy”, not the plan | Perhaps the one I identify with the most. I am a pragmatist and someone who learns by doing and believe students do as well. Furthermore, I am a firm believer in the idea that an informed and engaged citizenry is needed for democracy |
| Lev Vygotsky | Human development comes from dynamic interaction between individuals and society; society does not just impact people; people also affect their society | Way children grow and learn within culture and society; Zone of Proximal Development (gap between what you know and what you do not); more knowledgeable other; | * Scaffolding of content * Allow for social learning * Guided instruction | Perhaps the one I least identify with as while I believe that a more knowledgeable other can be worthwhile, it does depend on the way that information is shared. |