The mind is not a vessel to be filled, but a fire to be kindled. — Plutarch

Learning

We are all learners, all of our lives; sometimes we learn with others, sometimes we learn by ourselves but no one else can learn for us. The stimulus for learning may be internal or external, and may be a response to any one of a number of causes, fear, hunger, temperature or, love. Because learning is such a personal thing, the key to success is engagement in the learning process.

To learn is to change; therefore, a learner is a person who is engaged in the change process. Educators think of changes as being of the cognitive, affective or psychomotor domains. In everyday terms, that means a change in attitudes, skills or knowledge, and change often involves all three. Changes in
1. Attitudes result in a person acting in a way that is different from before
2. Skills result in the ability to perform existing skills better or to perform new skills
3. Knowledge result in a person having additional or new knowledge

All these changes results in behaviours that are definable, demonstrable, observable and measurable, but more about that later.

Our education may be thought of as all that we have learned, any and all experiences that have a formative effect, that have changed our attitude, knowledge or skills. Our education includes but is certainly not limited to schooling; in fact; we are educated even if we do not go to school. In fact, each day I seem to read more and more about the importance of the learning that occurs before one even reaches school.