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Did you find any differences between the Indian and Canadian school system?

Actually, I was really impressed and I found many similarities between Canadian and Indian schools. Here they try to educate the child in all respects; they help him grow and nurture him to live in a complex world. It's not only about mugging up and memorising. During the workshop yesterday, the students were really interested and engaged; you could see it on their faces.

Do you think that education is parents' responsibility or just the school's? Or of both?

The overall education of the student is actually a product of both school and parents. For me, it is an equilateral triangle. It is like a partnership wherein everyone has their own role to finally make the student succeed in his studies, and also in his personal development.

What is the role of schools and parents in giving a child education?

The school should handle the curriculum part for sure, but should also help the student to think, to be curious and to grow as a person by developing skills and self confidence. Parents must be involved in their child's day to day education. Not only should they offer their help for homework but they should also show interest by asking how was their child's day and asking him to explain what he learnt. This will construct a really important link between them. Plus the student will replay what he was taught during the day and activate the process of memorisation. Finally, it is by voicing what he remembers that he will notice what he does know and what he doesn't.


Can you give us some advice to increase grades at school?

think about this new trend of 'brain training' video games?

Students can have fun for half an hour per day playing games. If they need to, they just have to be careful of not spending too much time on it. About the brain training part, I think that everything has an effect and that it can actually have some benefits, but it is just one of the hundred different ways to help your brain. Sport, talks, alimentation, sleep are the most important.

Don't you think that introducing new methods to help students with difficulties, i.e. to spend more time helping them in classes, would be at the expense of the students that already have good marks?

Actually students are often asking me: How do I know when I can have a break? When should I stop to learn? I would answer you don't know until you can teach it to someone else. Well this is to take into consideration for good or bad students; I think everyone needs help at some point. For me, introducing tutoring in school would be a great method. It creates solidarity; and it helps everyone - the one who is taught and also the one who is teaching, to memorize and understand. Plus it is a real challenge to teach someone else: it helps develop confidence and leadership.



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INTERVIEW