

The Learners and Learning List

2019 Garden Docent Training
Hillwood Estate, Museum & Gardens

- 1.** Learning is personal meaning making. It is an active, participatory event in which minds are "doing." **Learners construct knowledge.**
- 2.** We learn by linking new information to what we already know (prior knowledge and experience). "Naive notions," misinformation, and/or misconceptions persist and may impede progress. Learning is a process.
- 3.** Frameworks or structures assist in the learning process by tapping into our biological need to organize information, to categorize. (This list is an example of one.)
- 4.** Learners' intellectual, emotional, physical, and social development are incremental and determined by biological and environmental factors. Educators must consider the learner's *stage of development* when designing learning experiences.
- 5.** Experiences that are relevant to the learner foster motivation to learn. **The learner controls the learning.**
- 6.** Learning from models is an essential part of the learning experience.
- 7.** Learning is a social event. We learn with others. The more diverse the group, the richer the learning possibilities. Adults and more knowledgeable peers can guide the learning activities of those with less experience, promoting higher levels of achievement.
- 8.** Learning involves activities in the cognitive, affective (emotional), and physical domains; they work together.
- 9.** Based on internal and external factors, people prefer one kind of learning activity to others. Student diversity, learning styles, multiple intelligences, and individual differences are terms associated with this idea.
- 10.** The physical setting is important to learners. Comfort and stimulation are partners in a successful learning experience.
- 11.** Assessment of learning must be built into the learning experience.