

Slow Learner Needs Special Approach and Realistic Goals

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Many individuals appear to have difficulty with the regular school program. The student may be a slow learner or the cause may be due to a particular problem.

The slow learner is not in the category of the handicapped or retarded. He can be educated but he needs a special approach and realistic goals.

Parents can be especially helpful with these children, who need individual attention. The children need patience, confidence and understanding. They should not be pressured. Slow learners respond quite well to the proper approach.

Must Be Identified

The first step is to identify the child as a slow learner. Make sure his difficulties are not due to other causes. A delayed growth rate, psychological problems, and physical handicaps call for different specialized approaches. The school can be most helpful as can your doctor or a local guidance clinic.

Once the problem is identified, you can be realistic about your expectations. The slow learner often loses confidence. He tends to give up easily. Help build his picture of himself. Encourage him. Let him know that you will help with his problems. Don't overdo

this. He could become too dependent.

You can be particularly helpful in the area of instruction. Individual help is needed. A tutor is fine but may be an expense which you cannot afford.

Work closely with his teacher. Your aid should be carefully planned to supplement the school. The child should be encouraged to help himself but should be able to obtain patient and simple explanations.

Needs Time, Repetition

What is the special approach? The young slow learner needs to work with concrete materials to help him understand. He will need time and repetition. By this I mean that in arithmetic he should work with blocks, sticks, etc. He should spend a good deal of time with these before using symbols (actual written numbers). Symbols are considered abstract. Understanding is difficult unless he has had many concrete experiences to which he can refer.

In reading, the slow learner again needs many actual experiences. The child will find it easier to read the word "house" if he has built many houses with blocks, drawn many pictures of houses, and seen many houses.

Although all children learn through similar experiences,

the slow learner needs more of this approach. The examples should help you understand the basis of a good approach to helping the child.

Don't Be Disappointed

Above all, do not become disappointed in a child who is a slow learner. Do recognize that he will have difficulty with school work. He can learn basic skills very adequately but may have increasing difficulty with the abstract. As the child grows older, his ability may increase. This may be due to the difference in development rates of various individuals. If the child remains a slow learner, it does not mean that he will be unsuccessful. It does mean that his talents lie outside the academic areas. Do not treat him differently. Discover and build upon his interests and skills. Show him that he has many reasons to respect himself.

Street Work at Central Point In Highway Plan

Newport — The Oregon Highway Commission has adopted a record budget of \$241,169,123 for 1963-65.

This is nearly \$30 million over the current budget. Construction and right of way purchasing takes up 73 per cent of the new budget, or \$176.2 million.

The second largest item of \$31.3 million is for maintenance and operation. Third biggest item, \$17.6 million, is for principal and interest payments on bonds.

The State Parks Division was budgeted for \$4.4 million, an increase of \$1.4 million over the current budget.

Negotiations Sought

The commission called for negotiations to acquire 185 acres for further development of three state parks in Coos and Curry counties. The parks are Bullard Beach, Loeb and William M. Tugman. The additions being sought are 125, 40 and 20 acres, respectively.

Street improvement jobs totaling \$308,000 in 11 cities were approved.

The cities and the allocations include Central Point \$18,800; Drain \$30,000; Eastside \$18,000; Estacada \$22,000; Gresham \$59,000; Hermiston \$33,800; Independence \$29,800; Newberg \$3,000; Philomath \$25,000; Stanfield \$16,000, and Sutherlin \$24,300.

Rural Interstate Traffic Increases

Salem — The Oregon Highway Department said Thursday that traffic on rural interstate routes increased 14.4 per cent in September over September of 1961.

Traffic on other rural parts of the state's highway system increased 6.1 per cent over last year. Urban interstate traffic was up 5.4 per cent and noninterstate city traffic was up 2.8 per cent.

The Pacific Highway, U. S. 99, showed the biggest traffic increase of any highway. The heaviest day of traffic in September was Sept. 1, the start of the Labor Day week end. A close second was Sept. 28, the Friday before the opening of deer season.

Auto Agency, Hotel Burn at Garberville

Garberville, Calif. — A gasoline can exploded in an auto agency here Wednesday night setting off a fire which destroyed the agency and an adjacent hotel.

The hotel building included a restaurant and bar.

County Road Crews Continue Projects

Jackson county road crews are continuing with miscellaneous jobs throughout the county, County Engineer Robert J. Carstensen reported Thursday.

Grading has been under way on Pioneer rd. Crews will start graveling the road from Carpenter Hill rd. easterly.

A bridge is being constructed over Willow creek on the Willow lake rd. and crews have finished graveling on Hiatt lake rd. from Howard Prairie to Hyatt lake.

Livestock Auction President Elected

Salem — Dr. Stanley E. McGough, Pendleton, has been elected chairman of the Oregon Board of Livestock Auction Markets.

Francis C. Cherry of Mitchell was named vice president.

The board adopted a resolution calling for repeal of the state exemption for clubs and associations under the auction licensing law. This came after complaints that some associations of horse owners have taken advantage of their exemption status to hold what amounts to public sale of horses in Oregon and elsewhere.

Hearing To Review Working Standards

Salem — The Oregon Wage and Hour Commission has announced that a public hearing will be held in Portland Nov. 15 to consider revision of employment standards for women and minors who work in hospitals and nursing homes.

The standards include minimum wages, maximum working hours, and other working conditions for hospital employees not working in a professional, executive or student nurse capacity.



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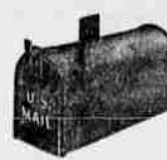
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