

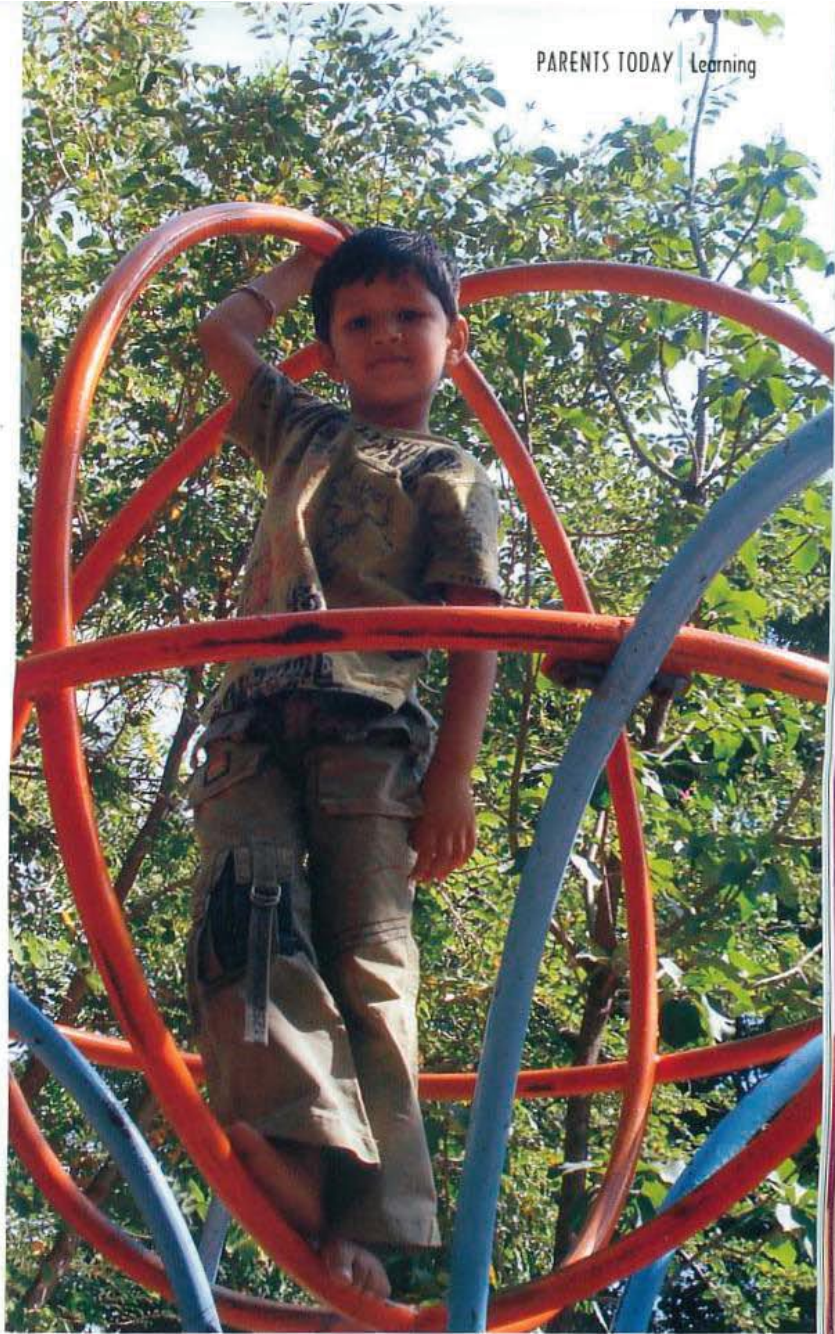
The Learning Theory elucidates the characteristics of the three different types of learners, which are:

- **Visual Learners:** These learners learn through visual images, graphics, pictures, diagrams. They think in pictures and enjoy art and drawing. They love handouts, overheads and will often say things like, "I think I get the picture" or "I see what you mean."
- **Auditory Learners:** Students who belong to this category generally enjoy listening to information such as lectures, speeches or lessons. They enjoy using tape recorders and discussions, and may talk a lot. These learners are very articulate and can verbalize concepts easily and like the information to be read out aloud. We often hear them saying things like, "I hear what you are saying" or "Sounds good to me."
- **Kinesthetic or Tactile Learners:** Learners belonging to this category learn best through doing. They enjoy hands on learning experiences. They are highly active and communicate a lot through body movements and gestures. They are generally restless and are unable to sit in one place for long. There is a need to touch and feel things and learn through physical sensations. They are very often distracted by movement, very often their own and enjoy sports and athletic activities. They generally say things like "I need a concrete example" or "That feels right."

How can the above-mentioned concepts be incorporated into the teaching-learning process? A simple and a practical example would be developing reading habits. There are many reading habits and proficiency development strategies that parents/teachers can adopt to assist children. These include helping them to recognizing letters of the alphabet (visual), the phonics of individual alphabets and their blends (auditory), decoding and the use of contextual clues.

Differentiated reading strategies (phonics vs. look-n-say) are all important as children have differing learning styles and therefore may benefit selectively from one or both methodologies. Therefore any good reading programme must address both strategies.

Sight reading (look-n-say) methodology involves the learning of new words and imprinting them into the long-term memory of pupils. The belief of this pedagogy is that words, like pictures, are symbols. If a child can see a picture of a ball and say 'ball' he can also recognize the written word 'ball'. So the eye 'recognizes' the printed word 'ball' just as it would the physical object. The composite printed word is flashed to the brain to be remembered and comprehended as reading. This process develops the visual recognition of words that children need to learn to become fluent readers.



Fisher-Price

play. laugh. grow.
mom tips

I apply a mix of almond, castor (half the amount) and olive oil in my daughter's hair since a few months and I can feel the difference in the quality and the sheen.

Raksha Jain, Bangalore

