



The open-source book “Teaching for learning in a fast-changing world” is now available

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An open-source book entitled “[Teaching for learning in a fast-changing world](#)” has been penned by the University of Johannesburg with contributions from DBE-E³, the Department of Basic Education, and it is edited by Professor Sarah Gravett.

How can we best prepare children for success in their lives and livelihoods? From hunter-gatherer societies to early civilisations and into modernity, generations have grappled with this key question. As they do, our definition of what counts as a high-quality education has evolved, as have the sites used to prepare children for their future.

This is why DBE-E³, the Department of Basic Education’s flagship programme in South Africa, seeks to equip educators to prepare learners to be solution-seeking active participants in the world after school.





The genesis of this open-source book is the need for a text about teaching for pre-service and in-service teachers that foreground learning by drawing on multiple perspectives in the literature on the science of learning.

The book will be useful to educators and those who are interested in assisting teachers in the rapidly changing world in which they have to teach.

The authors see a clear link between a focus on learning and the preparation of teachers for a future that is volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous, often referred to by the acronym VUCA.

Thriving in today's fast-changing world requires a breadth of skills rooted in academic competencies such as literacy, numeracy and science, but also including such things as collaboration, critical thinking, communication, and creativity.

The first two chapters of the book focus on what we can learn from the science of learning about teaching. The book also explores the use of dialogue and inquiry for lesson design.

Play and playfulness are addressed to create an environment conducive to learning, and guided play as a pedagogy is discussed. Another contribution of this book is the focus on the importance of an entrepreneurial mindset for success in a changing world.

Also, a chapter devoted to project-based teaching and learning is one teaching tool that connects the knowledge gained in the classroom to the





real world because the approach mirrors real life as learners work together to solve authentic real-life problems.

Readers should find stimulating and relevant ideas on teaching for learning in a fast-changing world. Teachers could implement these ideas reflectively in their own classrooms, or in the case of pre-service teachers, in planning lessons and when teaching during school practicum.

