

## **History of Education**

The history of education is very interesting, and diverse, as the years have passed. Education originated around 3000 B.C. and has continued to present day. As education as evolved, people have evolved. The learning and teaching process has changed as we have progressed. People have been taught the roles and positions of humankind in society. Generations since time began have sought to pass on cultural and social values, traditions, morality, religion, knowledge and skills to the next generation. As the values and culture passed, students learned everything from religion to science, and conflicting principles.

Starting at the beginning of education, from 3000 B.C. to 1500 B.C., education began to form. In Egypt, 3000 B.C., most children didn't go to school. Boys learned farming or other trades. Girls learned how to sew and how to cook from their mothers. Wealthy boys mostly learned how to scribe, read, write, and mathematics. Scribes used symbols called hieroglyphs. In China, 2000 B.C., education was a privilege of the elites, and public education was established. In India, 1500 B.C., priests in India teach religion, writing, philosophy, and sciences. Temples were used as education facilities.

Education in the American Colonies, from 1620 to 1750, took a new form when religion took over education. The main focus of education was to educate one about religion. Poor children generally did not go to school, and rich children got the best education. Grammar schools were established in order to teach boys Latin and math, and other subjects to get into college. The first higher education facility was formed in 1636 when Harvard was established. The Massachusetts sets of laws created the first laws

forcing parents to have children educated. The American Philosophical Society was formed to study philosophy and other topics. This is where objects began to be invented, and large concept discovered.

The Goals of Education, 1750 to 1820, included the major influence on a system of education. Benjamin Franklin created an academy that was designed to teach a broader and more practical curriculum. This system taught English, Foreign Language, arts, history, agriculture, and math. Sarah Pierce also founded an academy. This academy serves female students. The subjects included dance, sew, reading, writing, math, history, and science. Thomas Jefferson's philosophy was that education preserved liberty.

In 1825 to 1865, first schools for the blind were established. Elementary schools were separated by grade. The first High school for girls was created along with the first permanent women college. More education laws were being established. Some of these laws required 8 – 14 year olds to be in school. The first Board of Education was established by Horace Mann in 1837.

Education began to change between 1865 and 1920 with education for African Americans, kindergarden beginning, and professional teaching arising. Booker T. Washington was the first African American instructor at the Hampton Normal and Agricultural Institute of Virginia. Booker T. Washington then founded the Tuskee Institute for African Americans. William E. Burghardt was the first African American to receive a PH.D. The first kindergarden, in 1837, taught children skills through play and activities. Demand for teachers rose and females entered the teaching field, but with less respect.

During the Progressive Era, 1920 to 1945, Maria Montessori created a method. In her method, the child must have the most natural and life supporting environment, one must observe the child living freely in this environment, and the environment should constantly be adapted in order for child to reach his/her greatest. Diversity rose dramatically from immigration in the early twentieth century, thus immigrants were accepted into society through education.

During 1945 to 1960, segregation was ruled as unconstitutional and schools were beginning to desegregate. The National Defense Act of 1958 launched Sputnik, and exploration of space began. School population increased as Baby Boomers were born.

From 1960 to 1970, War on poverty and the Great Society began. The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 acted to eliminate illiteracy among the poor. An increase of education book production increased. The Bilingual Education Act of 1968 provided government aid to poor limited English speakers.

Education in 1970 to 1980 changed with the Education Amendments Act of 1975 which banned sex discrimination in schools. The Kent Massacre helped to change the safety procedures in school that are present today. On college and University campuses, Anti-war movements were showing up everywhere.

Education from 1980 to 1990 changed when the Nation At Risk Report of 1983 stated that education was not living up to potential and falling behind other countries. In New York, the Director of Curriculum created a "Homework Minimum." A Texas Law that banned illegal immigrants was deemed unconstitutional. Education of AIDS began to warn children about the mysterious disease. Education for All Handicapped Children Act increased education of the handicapped.

From 1990 to present day, education has become multicultural to accommodate for great diversity in society. The object of this type of education is to educate students of other cultures and countries. This also prepares students for a multicultural world. Scholarships were developed to redirect the flow of education. International Competition is on the rise to accommodate for the fall in education. Choice is the manifest of education today. Currently, one must achieve higher education to help with “special skills” needed for future occupations.

In conclusion, education has come a long way since it was first established. We now have more technology, and higher education principles. We must accommodate for the future, and what skill that may be needed. One may have idea of how education will look in the future, but education continues to change as we speak. Education doesn't wait for you to catch up.