

The state of education

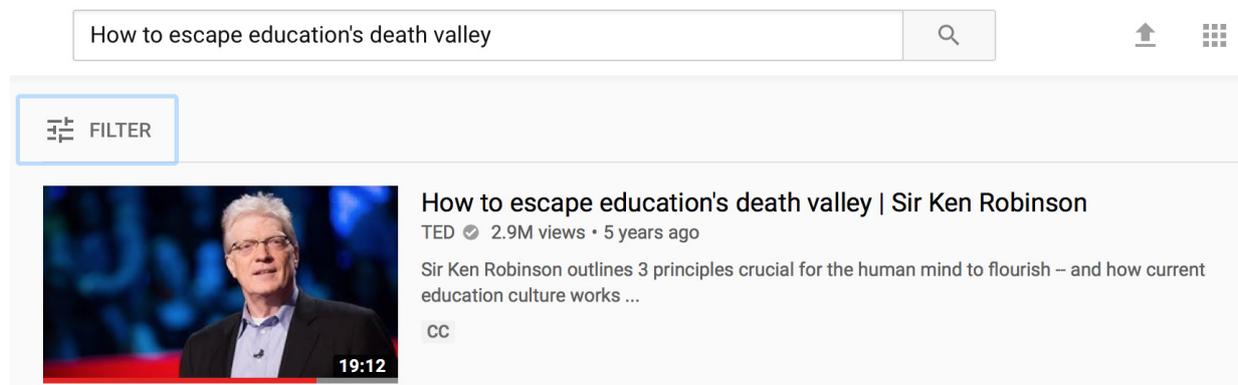


First thoughts

1. Do you think you had a good education?
2. What was missing from your education?

How to escape education's death valley

Search for 'How to escape education's death valley' on Youtube. Watch the video shown in the picture below.



Key points

- Current education culture needs a revolution.
- To get the best results in schools we need to acknowledge that:
 - Humans are naturally different and diverse
 - Children are naturally curious
 - Human life is inherently creative

Therefore:

- Children need a broad curriculum to develop and celebrate their various talents.
- The role of a teacher is to facilitate learning through: engaging, stimulating, provoking, mentoring and delivering.
- Give responsibility to the schools and teachers by supporting them, trusting them, helping them develop their skills, so that they can individualise learning for their students.
- Our students have seeds of possibility waiting, which with the right conditions will flourish.

Discussion

1. What do you think about this TED talk?
2. Do you agree with what Ken Robinson said?
3. The talk was about the US education system. Does it apply to your country's education?
4. What are your thoughts on your country's education system?
5. What do you think about teachers in your country?
6. Discuss the following quotes from Ken Robinson:

"If you're not prepared to be wrong, you'll never come up with anything original."

"Very many people go through their whole lives having no real sense of what their talents may be, or if they have any to speak of."

7. Do you think your country's education system will become more like Ken Robinson's vision in the future?
8. How about worldwide? As technology improves and business changes, will education be vastly different 20 years from now?

