



A Beginner's Guide to Learning Circles

Chapter 4b

More beginner's guide to complexity theory.

available at www.nald.ca/learningcircles/bg.htm

by Tracey Mollins with notes from Janice Brant, Arthur Bull, Guy Ewing
and Tracy Westell

When dealing with **complex systems**,
such as raising a child,
formulae have a much more limited role.



Raising one child provides experience but does not mean the experience will be the same the next child.

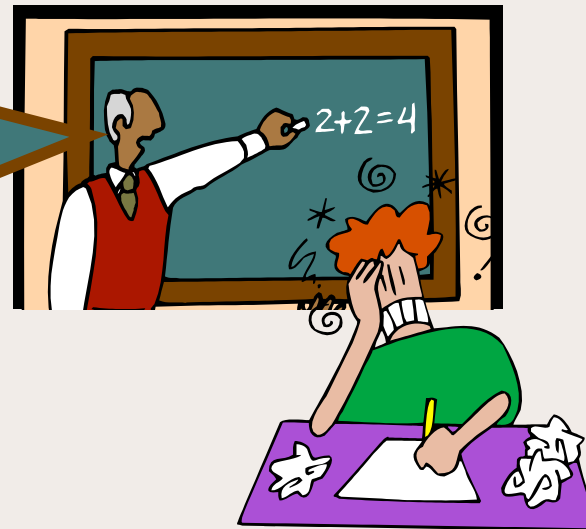


Que sera, sera

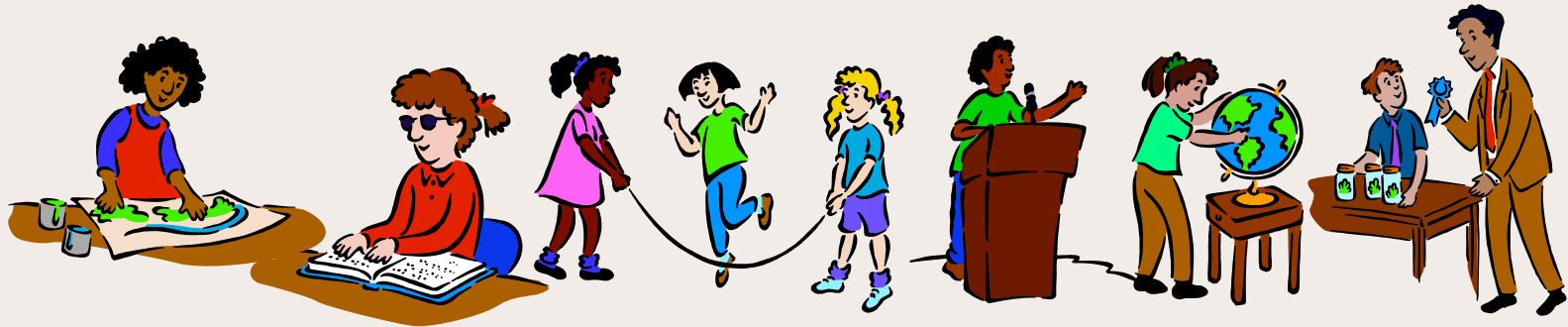


Expertise can contribute to the process in valuable ways but it does not guarantee success.

But I am Mr. Math!
What is your problem?



This is because every child is unique and must be understood as an individual.



As a result, there is always some uncertainty of the outcome.



Will I be pretty?
Will I be rich? ...

However, the complexity of the process and the lack of certainty do not lead us to the conclusion that it is impossible to raise a child.



We just understand that, when dealing with complex systems, we need to focus more on process and less on outcomes.

Glouberman, Sholom and Brenda Zimmerman
Complicated and Complex Systems: What Would Successful Reform of Medicare Look Like?
www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/pdf/romanow/pdfs/Glouberman_E.pdf