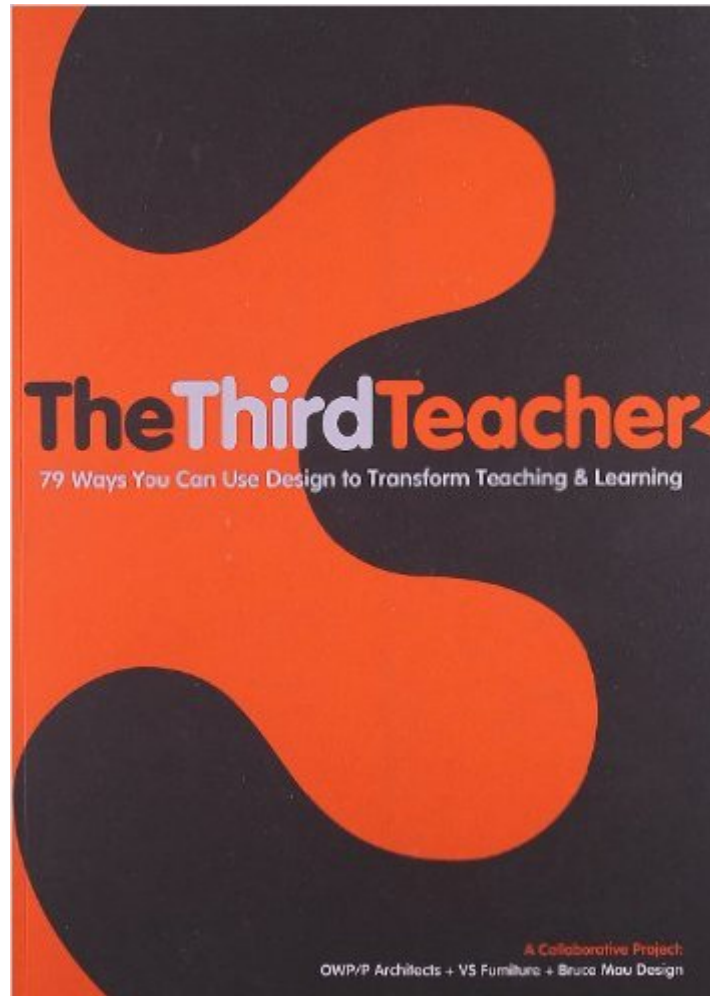


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The Third Teacher



Synopsis

Created by an international team of architects and designers concerned about our failing education system, *The Third Teacher* explores the critical link between the school environment and how children learn, and offers 79 practical design ideas, both great and small, to guide reader's efforts to improve our schools. Written for anyone who has school-age children in their life, from educators and education decision-makers to parents and community activists, this book is intended to ignite a blaze of discussion and initiative about environment as an essential element of learning. Including a wealth of interviews, facts, statistics, and stories from experts in a wide range of fields, this book is a how-to guide to be used to connect with the many organizations, individuals, and ideas dedicated to innovating and improving teaching and learning. Contributors include children's singer and advocate Raffi, author and creativity consultant Sir Ken Robinson, scientist and environmentalist David Suzuki, inventor James Dyson, and other experts who are working to create fresh solutions to problems and create a new blueprint for the future of education.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a great book to soak in. After flipping through it in the bookstore, I immediately bought it and spent the weekend forming ideas for my classroom and wishing government, the powers that be, dictating educational practices would do the same. This comment is directed at Martin Rayala's review. His comments that educators are only concerned with numbers, yada, yada, miss the point of the world's educational value, sadden, or rather - sicken, me. He goes on to say that teachers

complain, and that designers don't - they just solve problems. Pompous anyone? Teachers have less and less creative control in the classroom, due to government's mandates; common curriculum, rote instruction, subject timelines / schedules and various programs. If teachers were allowed to use their professional skills, trainings and experiences, both in and out of the classroom, yes, we would be producing lovers of learning, of life and happy individuals with inquisitive minds, all of which procure academically strong students. Federal and state mandates prevent us from doing so. It seems that all on the OUTSIDE of education are the ones concerned with test scores. Teachers know the true meaning of standardized scores and their rather small and invalid assessment of students as a whole. Kids are dropping out, losing interests and opportunities to find out what might inspire them. Get the education coaches, those that have never taught!, out of the classrooms, lay off with the data this and data that, and let us do what we know how to do - inspire the desire to learn, which is THE key. All else follows, including scoring well on a fill in the bubble test.

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