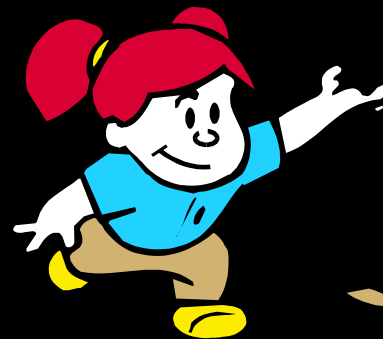
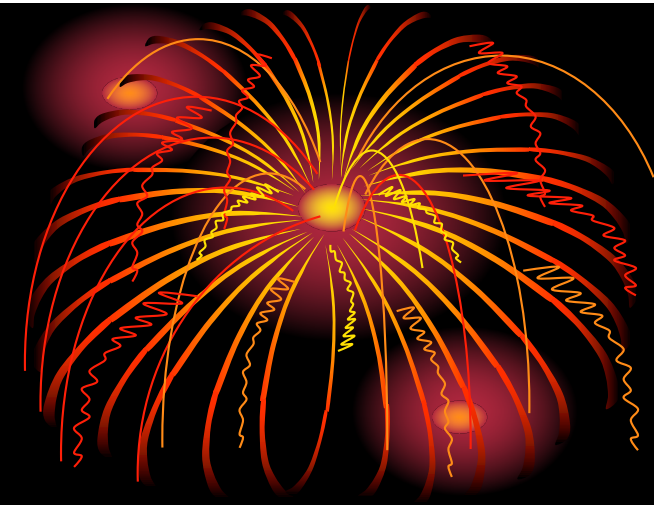


Understanding How Children Learn (Learning Styles)

**A Leadership Certification
Course #9**



Linda Mei Lin Koh
Children's Ministries
General Conference

Learning Styles

We all have a way we learn best.

**This is our *style*
*of learning***



"There is no right or wrong learning style. It's a matter of which style comes most naturally to you."

**Barbara Manspeaker
Director of CHM
Potomac Conference**



Dynamic

4

Innovative

1

3

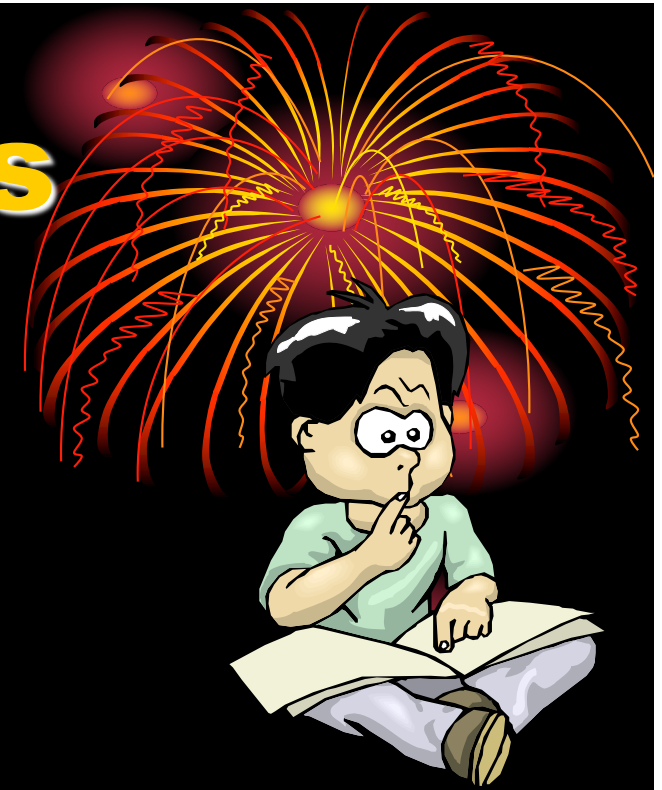
Common Sense

2

Analytic

Innovative Learners

"Why do I need to learn this?"



Strengths

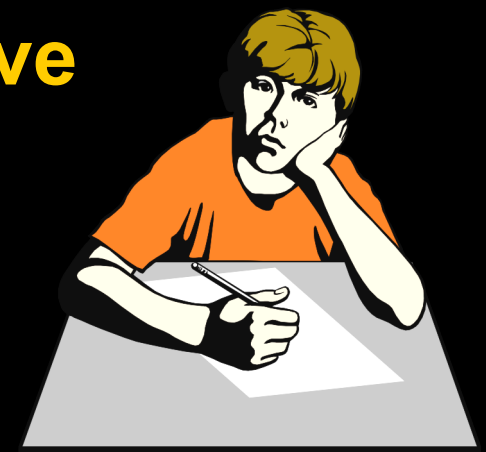
- **Imaginative ability**
- **Understand people**
- **Recognize problems**
- **Concerned with relationships**
- **Like small group interaction, mimes, role-playing, simulation**
- **In Sabbath School like arts & crafts, creative writing and role plays**

Innovative Learners



Weaknesses

- They prefer to observe rather than act
- Reluctant to make decisions
- Sometimes fail to recognize problems and opportunities
- Dislike debates, computer-intensive education
- Lack of artistic expression



Innovative Learners



In Sabbath School:

- **Artistic expression of faith**
- **Creative writing (poetry, songs, stories)**
- **Posters, collages, sculptures, room decorations**
- **Inventories about personal feelings**

Analytic Learners

"What do I need to learn?"



Strengths

- **Are thinkers**
- **Good at planning, creating models, developing theories**
- **Like to reason inductively**
- **Like research activities, quizzes, discussions, abstract Bible studies, puzzles, and coded Scriptures**

Analytic Learners

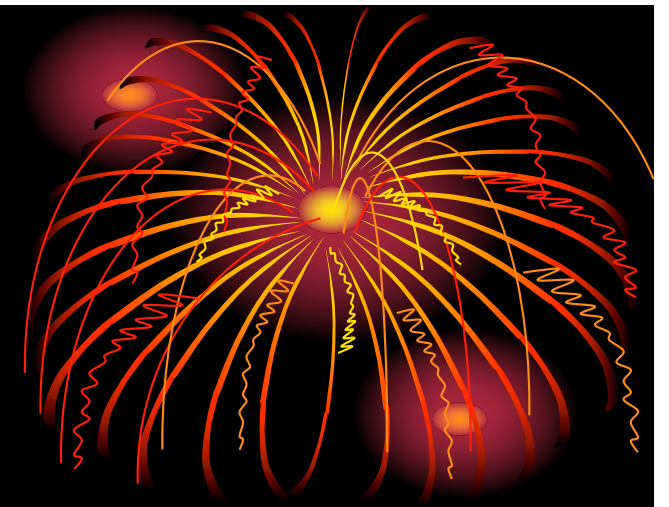


Weaknesses

- **Can be so involved in abstract thinking that they don't make good practical applications**
- **Spent lots of time in reading books and studying up on it, but never get around to doing it**



Analytic Learners



In Sabbath School:

- **Research activities with Bible maps, etc.**
- **Quizzes, discussions, Bible studies**
- **Coded scriptures and puzzles**

Common Sense Learners

"How do I use the information?"



Strengths

- **Learn through hands-on experience**
- **Good at problem-solving, decision making and applying new ideas to new situations**
- **Like experiments, problem-solving, drama and writing**
- **Want to get right to the point**



Common Sense Learners



Weaknesses

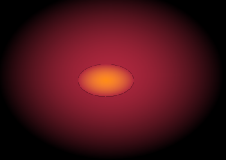
- **May solve the wrong problems**
- **May make hasty decisions**
- **Have lack of focus, no testing of ideas, scattered thoughts**



Common Sense Learners



In Sabbath School:

- **Begin on time with activities**
 - **Give opportunity for participation in experiments**
 - **Writing and planning a drama**
 - **Solving problems that apply the lesson to everyday life**
 - **Construction**
- 

Dynamic Learners

"What if?"



Strengths

- **Are result-oriented, so they start right in to do it**
- **Take leadership & are good at explaining policies**
- **Like case studies, producing creative products, dramatics and real life simulations**

Dynamic Learners



Weaknesses

- **Begin lots of jobs but don't complete them on time**
- **Tend to make trivial improvements and engage in meaningless activities**
- **Their planning is not realistic or goal-directed**



Dynamic Learners



In Sabbath School:

- **Hands-on activities, e.g. making greeting cards and write letters**
- **Real life simulations**
- **Produce and participate in dramas**
- **Making lists, organizing materials, planning a real event**
- **Testing situations/theories**

Learning Styles — So What?



- **Children learn in different ways**
- **Children have varying needs**
- **Children appreciate a choice of activities and approaches**
- **Children need practice using all styles of learning activities**

