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Prospective Student Visits  
to the Darden School:  
Process Improvement (A)



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"Learning itself is actually an emergent phenomenon: like a hive, or like a thunderstorm" (Mitra, 2013).

# SCHOOLS - NOT FACTORIES

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Professor Sugata Mitra, challenges the 20th Century view of education to start a movement of change in a post-Fordist society (islifeabsurd, n.d.):

**"Schools today are the product of an expired age; standardised curricula, outdated pedagogy, and cookie cutter assessments are relics of an earlier time"**

(Mitra, 2013).



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*In 1999, Mitra attached a computer in the outside wall of his Dehli office and left it there:*

*Within hours slum children had taught themselves how to browse the Internet.*

*Within months they were teaching themselves English.*



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*Mitra repeated the experiment in remote villages and found children adept at computer literacy and peer-to-peer learning within a short time.*



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Mitra continued his research in self-directed learning, taking technology to remote villages in India, giving children a speech to text programme to help them improve their English pronunciation skills.







A leading advocate of the self-directed learning movement and connectivist principles of acquiring knowledge, Mitra's experiments in motivating children to learn through technology, with little or no adult assistance, result in bridging a socio-economic divide that had existed in his country for decades.

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