

1980

Cancer Facts

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The essentials of education include the ability to use language to think and to communicate; to use mathematical knowledge and methods to solve problems; to reason logically; to apply and to understand scientific knowledge and methods; to make use of technology and to understand scientific knowledge and methods; to make use of technology and to understand the expressions of others; to understand other languages and cultures; to understand spatial relationships; to apply knowledge about health, nutrition, physical care and occupations to the world beyond school; to acquire the capacity to meet unexpected challenges; to recognize and to use one's full learning potential; and to prepare to go on learning for a lifetime.

The essentials of education can be defined as that set of experiences which enables learners to become aware of the world around them and to develop an understanding and appreciation of the interdependence of the many facets of that world. The common core in all these experiences is the ordering of these facets through abstractions and symbols. The basic task of education is to enable each learner to use these abstractions and symbols with power and ease.

Determining the essentials of education is far more demanding and significant than listing isolated skills assumed to be basic. It must involve the joint determination of the essentials by many segments of society in addition to professional educators. Among these are legislators, school boards, parents, workers' organizations, businesses, publishers and other groups and individuals with an interest in education. All must now participate in a coordinated effort on behalf of society to confront the task of specifying the essentials. Everyone has a stake in the essentials of education.

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Cancer Facts

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Did you know —

- o that the total, age-adjusted cancer death rate for U.S. women is on the decline?
- o that the total cancer death rate for U.S. men (excluding the death rates associated with smoking) is on the decline?
- o that 80 to 90 percent of cancers are due to environmental factors?
- o that excessive alcohol consumption and overeating is responsible for increased cancer rates?

Want to know more? Write for a free copy of *A Challenge to Fear*, by Elyse M. Rogers. Write: Dow Chemical Company, Health and Environment Research, Midland, Michigan 48640. This 25-page booklet is available free, and may be ordered in classroom quantities.