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My Thoughts on Learning Styles

I didn't realize there was any debate on learning styles until reading the article, "The Problem With Learning Styles" by Cindi May. While I understand where she comes from in the article, I believe she is overlooking a big chunk of people, including myself, with learning disabilities. Personally, I have been more successful in school as someone with diagnosed Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) since I learned my learning style. I personally work best with learning in the hands-on, tactile way. I didn't know this until I was seventeen and until then I simply thought I was bad at tests even when I had studied the material thoroughly. Understanding that I am a tactile learner has also helped me significantly at work. I am now able to advocate for myself and ask my supervisors to show me what is expected on a new task instead of just sitting there confused after they simply said the instructions to me.

I think my experience of being overlooked in Cindi's article ties into the other article we read, "Culture Impacts Learning and Not Just for Students" by Corinne Brion. In this article Corinne discusses that understanding of culture and context play a role in learning. To completely disregard my experience as someone with ADD who found that the tactile learning style is most helpful for me is unfair. By doing this Cindi is ignoring my cultural context and what makes me, me. Who I am plays a big role in the way I learn and memorize new things. I believe it can be incredibly helpful to anyone to learn their learning style- because even if you are someone who falls into the zone of different learning styles not affecting your test scores, it

may have impact on you in ways other than score, like how long it takes you to study, how engaged and interested you are, and other things like that.