

Do they really think  
differently essay



**ASSIGN  
BUSTER**

With the changing of society through technology, it is hypothesized that Digital Native's (current generation that has grown up on technology) brains are physically different than other generations due to the stimuli they received growing up on technology. It was previously believed that your brain could not be physically changed after about the age of three. But through studies and research it has been proven differently. Research has shown that in fact the brain is constantly creating new brain cells and reorganizing itself.

One of the earliest experiments on testing brain altering was done in a study on rats. It was shown that when rats were put in different environments, their brain sensory areas and layers changed quite quickly. Also, steady growth in brain alteration was monitored throughout the entire testing. There are also other many other studies in which it shows the brain can adapt and change to different situations. Another key fact in proving that brains can be physically different has been found through social psychology.

It has been found that people who have grown up in different cultures not only think about different things, but also literally think differently. The outside world and culture can literally shape a person's mind into the manner of which that person thinks. While the environment in which you grow up in and are molded through does determine how you think, it takes a long time and hard work. You can't teach your mind to read and learn through sequences in one night, as it takes practice, practice, and more practice.

It also takes a great deal of focus for a large period of time in order to reorganize your brain. Digital Natives have spent a great deal of time since

they were born doing one thing in particular that requires practice and a large amount of focus...gaming. Ever since the creation of video games, children have literally been rewiring their brains to deal with the speed and quick changing of video games. With video games, this new generation of Digital Natives has a very unique style of thinking compared to older generations and voyages into uncharted waters that are still to be explored.

The main question that arises while trying to figure out how to teach this new generation is whether or not teaching students through games will actually work. While the correct game must be chosen to teach students, it has been found in studies that this new technique of teaching can actually increase student scores in subjects. The US Military strongly supports game strategy techniques to teach as they use it themselves when teaching new trainees. Whether new techniques of teaching are developed and put into a mass scale use across the nation, or old generation styles of teaching are brought back, there is change on the horizon.

Response I believe that this article is right in that the new generation of students actually have differently functioning brains than that of previous generations. If you look at kids ages two and up, what is their favorite thing to do? Play video games. Every time one of my younger cousins comes over to visit, the first thing they do is ask me to play Xbox. Who would have thought that I would have my four-year old cousin asking me to play video games? It just goes to show how young the brains start at learning technology and how they soak it up like a sponge.

I believe this article is right when it says that this new generation actually has physically different brains. While the new generation has technological brains, I don't agree that students should be taught only through gaming and technology. Why should school be made so easy for students? If students already understand technology so well, they should be challenged to learn through reading and writing. Reading and writing are never going to become obsolete so why should we teach students like it is? Everyone should be well rounded and be taught in both reading and writing, as well as in technological styles.