



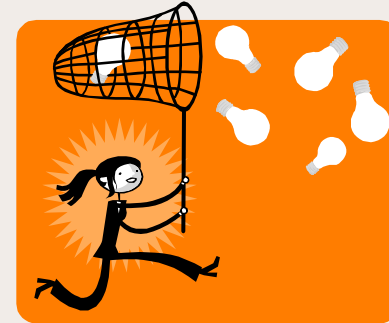
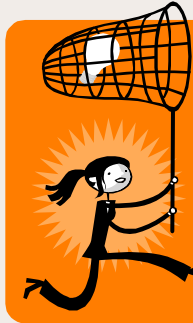
# A Beginner's Guide to Learning Circles

## Chapter 5 Outcomes.

available at [www.nald.ca/learningcircles/bg.htm](http://www.nald.ca/learningcircles/bg.htm)

by Tracey Mollins with notes from Janice Brant, Arthur Bull and Guy Ewing

In learning circles,  
where a vision approach to learning is adopted,  
and learning and teaching are seen as complex  
systems rather than simple or complicated ones ...



- Each person is seen as unique.
- Each person is responsible for expressing their their own needs and desires with respect to learning and teaching.
- The group is responsible for creating an environment where everyone can learn.



- Each person is responsible for defining success for themselves.
- The group is responsible for creating an environment where each person can achieve success as defined by that person.



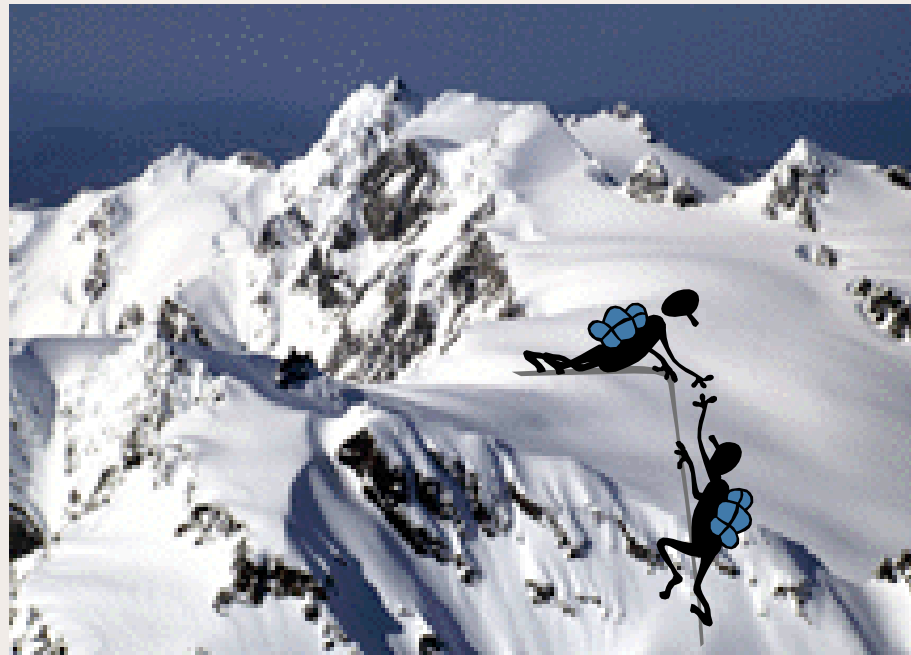


- People in the learning circles like each other and enjoy each other's company... there is conviviality and joy.



- And the focus is on process, not on outcomes or reaching goals or racing to the top.

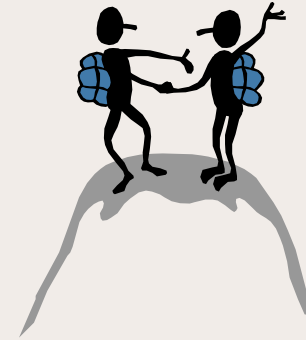
Kind of like these the Himalayan mountaineers ...



A Himalayan mountaineering expedition adopted three rules (principles) that guided them through the trip.

1. We all return safely.
2. We return as friends.
3. We climb the mountain.

These rules, in order of priority, then informed all their actions and ensured that they maintained a healthy perspective on what signified success.



Jones, M. (2002) MSc Dissertation, School of Educational Studies, University of Surrey, p. 27

The goal of reaching the top of the mountain was important.

But it was more important that everyone stayed safe and remained friends.

So if they all stayed safe and remained friends but had not reached the top, they still would have been 66.66666666666666% successful.

