

# John Holt

John Holt was a prominent American educator and advocate of homeschooling and unschooling. Born on April 14, 1923, in New York City, Holt spent his early years in the city and attended public schools. After serving in the Navy during World War II, he returned to New York and enrolled in Swarthmore College, where he studied physics and mathematics.

After graduation, Holt worked as a teacher for several years in a private school before moving to Boston in the late 1950s. In Boston, he became a teacher and then a school administrator, working with troubled and at-risk students. Over time, however, Holt grew disillusioned with the traditional educational system and became increasingly critical of it.

In the mid-1960s, Holt began to write about his experiences as an educator and his views on education. His first book, "How Children Fail," was published in 1964 and quickly gained a following among educators and parents. In this book, Holt argued that the traditional education system stifles children's natural curiosity and creativity, and that it fails to meet their basic needs and interests.

Holt's second book, "How Children Learn," published in 1967, expanded on these themes and offered practical suggestions for how to create a more personalized and child-centered approach to education. This book was widely read and had a significant impact on the growing homeschooling and unschooling movements.

In the late 1960s, Holt became an advocate for homeschooling and unschooling, which he saw as an alternative to the traditional education system. He wrote several more books on education, including "Teach Your Own: A Hopeful Path for Education" (1981) and "Never Too Late: My Musical Life Story" (1984), which detailed his experiences with music education.

Holt continued to write and speak about education until his death in 1985. He is widely remembered as a pioneer of the homeschooling and unschooling movements, and his books continue to be widely read and influential today.

## Publications

- **"How Children Fail"** (1964) - This book is a critical examination of the traditional educational system, and argues that it stifles children's natural curiosity and creativity.
- **"How Children Learn"** (1967) - This book expands on the themes of "How Children Fail" and offers practical suggestions for how to create a more personalized and child-centered approach to education.
- **"Escape from Childhood: The Needs and Rights of Children"** (1974) - In this book, Holt argues that children have the right to make their own choices and live their own lives, and that they should be freed from the constraints of childhood.
- **"The Underachieving School"** (1977) - This book critiques the traditional education system from a social and cultural perspective, and argues that it is responsible for widespread underachievement among students.
- **"Teach Your Own: A Hopeful Path for Education"** (1981) - In this book, Holt advocates for homeschooling and unschooling as alternatives to the traditional education system, and

provides practical advice and resources for parents who wish to educate their children at home.

- **“Never Too Late: My Musical Life Story”** (1984) - This book details Holt's experiences with music education and his views on the importance of music in education.
- **“The Right and Wrong of Compulsion by the State and Other Essays”** (1987) - This collection of essays and articles includes many of Holt's most important writings on education and the rights of children.

These are the major publications by John Holt, and they continue to be widely read and influential in the fields of education and child development.

From:

<https://dokuwiki.3dd.de/> - **Integral Eye Movement Therapy (IEMT) Wiki**

Permanent link:

[https://dokuwiki.3dd.de/the\\_philosophy\\_of\\_john\\_holt?rev=1676142107](https://dokuwiki.3dd.de/the_philosophy_of_john_holt?rev=1676142107)

Last update: **2023/02/11 20:01**

