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Mirrors in the making

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PROPOSITIONS

advanced in the thesis by Theisje van Dorsten

Mirrors in the Making

*Culture, education, and the development of metacognition
in early and middle childhood (4-10)*

- ▶ *In order to improve the status of cultural education both in schools and in society at large, its diversity and its particularity must be understood, acknowledged and appreciated.*
- ▶ *Metacognition does not only involve linguistic and analytical skills.*
- ▶ *It is important to discern between perceptual and imaginative aspects of mimesis and iconic thought in order to see the role of the artefact in human cognition.*
- ▶ *Not every form of imagination is part of our cultural consciousness. Although crafts and technology are fundamental properties of our culture, they do not necessarily belong to the domain of cultural education.*
- ▶ *The dominance of conceptualization and analysis in Western education tends to obscure the relevance and usefulness of more concrete modes of thought.*
- ▶ *A theory is inherently different from a concept.*
- ▶ *Human culture can only be properly studied through interdisciplinary research.*
- ▶ *The downsides of using language become immediately apparent when transferring knowledge and concepts from one domain to another, or when a researcher enters a classroom.*
- ▶ *It would be good if cultural education was considered self-evident.*
- ▶ *'Cognition' is not a dirty word when studying or describing the arts.*