## CONTENTS

Pre	face	ix
Acknowledgments		×iii
1.	The Big Clear-Out	1
	Sometimes We Are Lazy	7
	Thinking in Boxes	9
	Our Vision of Education?	10
	Brass Farthing	11
	Cream Cakes	12
	Dear Experts	12
	A Who's Who of the World of Education Research	13

2.	Myths a	bout Learning	17
	Introduct	ion	18
	Myth 1	People Have Different Styles of Learning	20
	Myth 2	The Effectiveness of Learning Can Be Shown in a Pyramid	28
	Myth 3	You Learn 70% Informally, 20% from Others and Just 10% through	
		Formal Education	36
	Myth 4	If You Can Look Everything Up, Is Knowledge so Important?	39
	Myth 5	Knowledge Is as Perishable as Fresh Fish	44
	Myth 6	You Learn Better if You Discover Things for Yourself	
		rather than Having Them Explained to You by Others	48
	Myth 7	You Can Learn Effectively through Problem-Based Education	54
	Myth 8	Boys Are Naturally Better at Mathematics than Girls	58
	Myth 9	In Education, You Need to Take Account of Different Types of	
		Intelligence	63
	Myth 10	Our Memory Records Exactly What We Experience	70
	Myth 11	School Kills Creativity	77
	Myth 12	Ninety-Three Percent of Our Communication Is Non-Verbal	82
	So, What	Exactly Do We Know about Learning?	86
	Feedback		86
	The Basis	of Remembering: Processing and Emotion	87
	Learning	Through Concrete Examples	88
	Give You	Learners Variety and Surprise	88

٧

	Make Su	ure You Have Enough Breaks	88
	Barak Ro	osenshine's 10 Principles of Good Instruction	89
3.	Neuro	myths	93
	Introduc	ction	93
	Myth 1	We Are Good Multitaskers	96
	Myth 2	We Only Use 10% of Our Brains	100
	Myth 3	The Left Half of the Brain Is Analytical, the Right Half Is Creative	104
	Myth 4	You Can Train Your Brain with Brain Gym and Brain Games	108
	Myth 5	Men Have a Different Kind of Brain than Women	113
	Myth 6	We Can Learn While We Are Asleep	116
	Myth 7	Babies Become Cleverer if They Listen to Classical Music	119
	Myth 8	We Think Most Clearly When We Are Under Pressure	122
	Does It	Help to Have a Correct Knowledge of How the Brain Works?	124
4.	Myths	about Technology in Education	127
	Myth 1	New Technology Is Causing a Revolution in Education	129
		The Internet Belongs in the Classroom Because It Is Part	121
	,	of the Personal World Experienced by Children	135
	Myth 3	Today's Digital Natives Are a New Generation Who Want a New Style	
		of Education	139
	Myth 4	The Internet Makes Us Dumber	145
	Myth 5	Young People Don't Read Any More	149
	Myth 6	You Learn Nothing from Games Other than Violence	154
		You Can Help Poor Children to Learn Just by Giving Them Access to	
		Computers	158
	Learning	and Technology: A Few Tips	162
5.	Myths	in Educational Policy	165
		You Can Justifiably Compare the School Results of Different Countries	166
		Class Size Doesn't Matter	171
		Larger Schools Are Better than Small Ones	176
		Separate Education for Boys and Girls Is More Effective than Mixed	170
	,	Education	178
	Myth 5	Boys Benefit if They Have Lessons from Men More Regularly	182
		Grade Retention - Being Left Back - Has a Positive Effect on Learning	186
		More Money Means Better Education	189
	Myth 8	Education Never Changes	191

205

6.	Myth Persistence and Myth Busting	195
	Why Are these Myths so Persistent?	195
	Moral Panic and Educational Myths	197
	What Can We Do about this?	198
	How Can I Avoid Believing Myths or Passing them on to Others?	201
	Into the Future: What about the Myths to Come?	203

Index