

Psychological Theories:

A Brief Survey of the Changing Views of Learning

Constructivism

The constructivist theories takes on a variety of forms just like the behavioristic and cognitivistic.

The basic distinction, however, is that while the behaviorists viewed knowledge as nothing more than passive, largely automatic responses to external factors in the environment and the cognitivists viewed knowledge as abstract symbolic representations in the head of individuals, the constructivistic school ***views knowledge as a constructed entity made by each and every learner through a learning process.***

Knowledge can thus not be transmitted from one person to the other, it will have to be (re)constructed by each person. **This means that the view of knowledge differs from the "knowledge as given and absolute" views of behaviorism and cognitivism.**

Source: http://www.uib.no/People/sinia/CSCL/web_struktur-836.html