

THE POWER OF FAILURE

Creating a Culture of Learning & Growth in Schools

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PART
FAILURE is ~~opposite~~
of **SUCCESS**



What do we experience
more in our life?

FAILURES
or **SUCCESSSES**

Let's write about our life's
most important failure

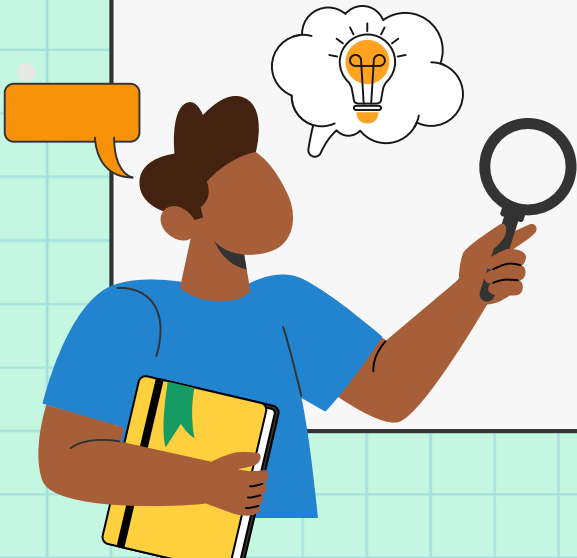


Thomas Edison

The Inventor Who Embraced Failure

"I have not failed. **I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work.**"

Beyond the light bulb, Edison held over 1,000 patents and revolutionized industries with his inventions, including the phonograph and the motion picture camera.



Key Takeaway for Schools:

- Reframe failure as an opportunity to learn and improve, experiment, take risks, and approach challenges with determination
- Encourage students to reflect on their mistakes



Why Address **Failure** in Schools?





Global Perspective

- Problem-solvers and Resilient individuals.
- The ability to bounce back from failure is a critical life skill.



Global Competitiveness

- Finland and Singapore prioritize resilience and creativity
- Focus on project-based learning encourages students to explore and make mistakes without fear



Children Perspective

- Focus on efforts & results
- Collaboration over competition



Key Challenges in Building a Failure-Friendly Culture





Societal expectation

Parental expectation
Pressure for academic
excellence



Resistance to Change

Focus on perfection
Compromise standards



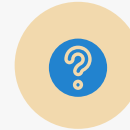
Lack of Training

Lack the tools and strategies
Limited professional
development



Fixed Mindset

Fear being judged or ridiculed
Culture of comparison



Limited Parental Support

Mistakes as failures of the
school



Time Constraints

Overloaded curricula

What failure IS & is NOT?





Failure IS

Learning

Feedback

Progress

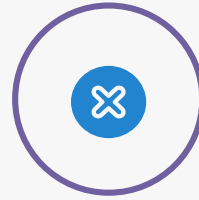
Process

Experimentation

Resilience-building

Temporary

Opportunity



Failure is NOT

Losing

Judgment

Defeat

Result

Incompetence

Weakness

Permanent

End

The **KEY** Role



Role of Management:

Define Vision & Policies:

- **Open discussions** about mistakes
- **Failure-friendly practices** in evaluations & assessments.

Professional Development:

- Workshops on **growth mindset** and risk-taking
- Partner with experts for sessions on learning from mistakes.

Monitor and Celebrate Success:

- Recognize **innovative approaches**, even when they don't succeed.
- Create awards like "**Best Lesson from a Mistake**".



Role of Principals:

Risk-Taking Leadership

- Hold "**Failure Forums**" where staff discuss challenges.
- Lead by example by sharing a "**mistake of the month**" in meetings.

Mentorship:

- creating **failure-friendly classrooms**
- Encourage peer collaboration

Feedback Mechanisms

- **Anonymous feedback** from staff and students
- Use feedback to refine school practices



Role of Teacher:

Classroom Environment:

- “**Mistake Walls**” where students display and discuss their learnings. .
- **Mistake of the day/week**
- Activities like “**What Went Wrong?**”

Progress-Oriented Assessments:

- Assessments that reward **reflection and improvement**.
- Encourage students to revise work based on teacher feedback.

Modeling Behavior

- Share **personal examples** of mistakes and how they led to growth.
- **Appreciate students who take risks**, even if their efforts lead to failure.



Role of Students:

Own Mistakes

- Take responsibility for their errors and see them as opportunities to improve.
- Engage in “mistake analysis” sessions

Collaborate and Reflect:

- Engage in **peer discussions** to analyze mistakes
- Maintain a **journal** to document failures, lessons learned, and future strategies.

Creative Risks:

- Engage in **open-ended projects** where experimentation is valued over immediate success.



The **KEY** Case studies



Mathematics:

Mathematics Classroom – Embracing Errors:

Scenario: A math teacher noticed students' reluctance to participate due to fear of making mistakes.

Implementation:

Mistake-Friendly Environment: The teacher introduced a "favorite mistakes" segment where common errors were analyzed collectively, emphasizing that mistakes are integral to understanding complex concepts.

Outcome: Students became more willing to engage, ask questions, and collaborate, leading to a deeper comprehension of mathematical principles.



Languages:

Languages – Risk-Taking in Writing:

Scenario: Students were producing formulaic essays, avoiding creative risks for fear of lower grades.

Implementation:

- **Creative Assignments:** The teacher assigned **open-ended writing** prompts and assured students that **innovative approaches would be rewarded, not penalized.**
- **Reflective Feedback:** Provided **feedback focusing on the creative process** and growth areas rather than just the final product.
- **Outcome:** Students began experimenting with diverse writing styles and narratives, enhancing their engagement and writing skills.



Science:

Science Lab – Encouraging Experimental Risks:

Scenario: Students hesitated to propose hypotheses during experiments, fearing incorrect answers.

Implementation:

Hypothesis Wall: Created a space where students could post their hypotheses without judgment, followed by class discussions on each idea's merits and potential pitfalls.

Outcome: Increased student participation and enthusiasm in scientific inquiry, fostering a deeper understanding of the scientific method



Let us redefine failure as a powerful tool for success.

“Girte hai shahsawar hi maidan-e-jung mein,
wo tiftl kya gire jo ghutno ke bal chale.”





Jazakum Allahu Khairan!

For any questions

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