

The Peak of Curiosity

All through our lives we've been taught to ask questions. Mostly though, we've been taught to ask questions for a singular distinct purpose; to find an answer, or in some cases "the" answer. We've forgotten that we were born to ask questions as part of our relationship and connection with the world. In some cases, a simple understanding of how things function, but in others, we may be asking deeper questions such as "what the heck am I here for anyway?"

As children, we were born "not knowing." Right now I'm seriously delighted and amused at how much material is out in the world in books, tapes and seminars or workshops on getting to the state of "not knowing" as a desired place of "zen" living. This is not something that is new to us. We were born in this state. What has happened is that we've forgotten the joy, innocence and value of being there. Or worse, someone has beaten it out of us via schooling, work, or parental incursion as if to say...."Innocence and not-knowing are a crime and need to be expunged. If you're going to be safe in the world...you must KNOW." What a silly way to live our lives; to indict the very beginnings of our lives as somehow inadequate to survive in the "real" world.

Children are curious about many things. They allow this natural curiosity to live joyously inside them and without discrimination. It's their method of finding their way in the world. i.e. "What are these things in my hand and how does it fit with me or I fit with it?"