Interesting Facts on Education and its impact

Source: https://borgenproject.org/effects-education-has-on-society

The Top 10 Effects Education Has on Society

1. **Education is important in the creation of any democratic society.**As Franklin D. Roosevelt says, “Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education.” People need a good education if they want a good democracy.
2. **Education is needed to make a society geopolitically stable.**Without a proper [educational system](https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/isis-uncovered/deprogramming-children-isis-n780081) available to everyone, terrorists could use free education as a way to radicalize people. In other words, geopolitical stability is one of education’s most powerful effects on society.
3. **Education leads to economic prosperity in the global marketplace.**One of the most important effects education has on society is giving the people who live in a society the skills they need to compete in the global marketplace, and the skills they need to produce technological goods that can be sold on the open market. Socrates best expressed this idea when he stated: “Prefer knowledge to wealth, for the one is transitory, the other perpetual.”
4. **Education gives people the knowledge they need to elect capable leaders.**Plato stated, “In politics we presume that everyone who knows how to get votes knows how to administer a city or a state. When we are ill… we do not ask for the handsomest physician, or the most eloquent one.” Education helps the members of society see through the manipulations used by politicians to get votes so that the members of the society can vote for the leader who is best able to run the society.
5. **Education helps promote tolerance in a society and helps reduce common conflicts between diverse populations in an urban setting.**Helen Keller said that “The [highest result](https://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/helen_keller_133850) of education is tolerance.” Educating members of society about other people who either live in the society or its neighboring states have the power to reduce many conflicts.
6. **Education has the power to help societies, and the world in general, change for the better.**According to Nelson Mandela, “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. Malcolm X says that: “Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.” Education is a powerful tool that can be used to make the world a better place to live in.
7. **Education is important because it helps members in a society learn from the mistakes of the past.**Plato has stated that geopolitical stability cannot be created by forming a democratic government; if the government is established by force or because of overthrowing an old regime, the new government could transform from a government that encourages peace and democracy into a new government that uses force to maintain power. Having an education is important because [good education](https://www.npr.org/2017/09/22/552665068/can-teaching-civics-save-democracy) allows members of a society to learn from past mistakes and prevent the same mistakes from happening in the future.
8. **Education is the first step a society needs before giving rights to women and other minority groups.**Education is a powerful tool that enables women and other minority groups to gain fundamental civil rights. It is important to treat women and other minorities with respect in the classroom. Abraham Lincoln stressed the importance that education has in helping people who live in a society to more fundamental civil rights when he said, “The philosophy of the schoolroom in one generation is the philosophy of government in the next.”
9. **Education reduces violence and crime in societies.**Teaching people to read has been shown to prevent people from engaging in crime. In fact, the Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention and Treatment is a charity group uses education to combat violence and crime.
10. **Education creates hope for the future.**Giving people hope that they can improve their lot in life is one of the more powerful effects education has on a society. John F. Kennedy best expressed the power of a good education when he said: “Let us think of education as the means of developing our [greatest abilities](http://www.quotationspage.com/quote/8280.html), because in each of us there is a private hope and dream which, fulfilled, can be translated into benefit for everyone and greater strength for our nation.”  JFK’s words about America apply to every society on Earth.

8 Facts About Education in Singapore

1. **Education in Singapore is obligatory.** Since 2003, all children must be enrolled in school. This begins from an early age all the way through primary and secondary education. The [compulsory education](https://beta.moe.gov.sg/primary/compulsory-education/) rule applies to both citizens and foreigners. If parents fail to have their children in school or home-school them, they can face significant fines. In fact, they can even go to prison for up to 12 months.
2. **It’s mostly free.**Singaporean citizens receive primary education for free. Secondary education costs about $5 per month. While there are other costs related to education, they do not exceed $30 per month in either case (primary or secondary education). Thus, education is still made [affordable](https://beta.moe.gov.sg/primary/compulsory-education/) to all Singaporeans.
3. **Almost everyone in Singapore is literate.**According to the [CIA Factbook](https://beta.moe.gov.sg/primary/compulsory-education/), 97 percent of the population over 15 years of age can read and write, as of 2016. By the age of 16, it’s expected for students to have completed both primary and secondary education. Whether or not students decide to pursue a college degree or go on the technical career path, they are already provided with the basic skills to enter the professional world.
4. **High-quality education also comes at a price.**Students have opened up about suffering from stress and anxiety related to schoolwork or tests. As stated by an OECD report about Student Well-Being, more than [75 percent of students feel extremely anxious](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/sn.html) before taking an exam. This is the case regardless of how much they have studied for it. More than half of the students feel stress while they are studying.
5. **Real-life skills are prioritized**. Education in Singapore focuses on teaching students through theory. However, education is also taught with practice and through applying their knowledge to real life experiences. The goal is to give them all the skills needed to deal with different situations. Additionally, Singapore aims to help students build a strong set of values for the future. This includes teaching them that they live in a globalized world and have to adapt to different cultures as well as knowing their own national traditions.
6. **Singapore is a leader in science and reading.**In recent years, Singapore has been able to top all countries in the [PISA evaluation](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/sn.html) regarding science and reading proficiency. The mean score in both these fields is 493 points. Singapore’s score for science is of 556 points, followed by Japan, with 538 points. As for reading proficiency, Singapore scores 535 points.
7. **Teachers work longer days.**Teachers work more hours than the world average. They are expected to spend almost as much time with their students as parents spend time with their children. Thus, reinforcing core values and the subjects taught in class.
8. **There is freedom to pursue each student’s unique interests.**Students are encouraged to take on community-related activities or co-curricular activities. They will have a shorter syllabus, thus allowing more time to investigate and study specific areas of their interest in their free time. Singapore’s education also encourages a well-rounded approach. Schools offer subjects such as the sciences, electronics, languages, arts and music.

These eight facts about education in Singapore show just how effective established government practices are in reshaping a country’s future. They are simple laws which are easy to implement. But they have changed Singapore in 16 years. Certainly, work remains to be done. The students need a better support system to better deal with high education demands. However, the overall quality of life they can expect from the practices already implemented are undeniable.