

CONTENTS

Foreword	ix
<i>by Salome Thomas-EL</i>	
Preface	xiii
Acknowledgments	xvii
About the Author	xviii
Prologue	xix
PART I: GETTING CURIOUS ABOUT CURIOSITY	1
CHAPTER 1. What Is This Funny Little Thing Called Curiosity?	3
A Strange Phenomenon	4
A Two-Sided Coin	5
What Sparks Curiosity?	7
Becoming Curious People	9
CHAPTER 2. Are We Naturally Curious?	13
Is Curiosity in Our DNA?	14
Nurturing Curiosity	16
Creating Curiosity Conditions	17
Are Some Classrooms More Curious Than Others?	18
A Curious Childhood	19

CHAPTER 3. This Is Your Brain on Curiosity	23
Making Memories Stick	24
Curiouser and Curiouser	25
The Curious Nature of Curiosity Research	26
PART II: CURIOSITY IN CLASSROOMS	29
CHAPTER 4. Quashing Curiosity	31
Turning Talent and Interest Into Boredom	32
Bored to Death	33
No Time for Curiosity	34
CHAPTER 5. Engineered for Boredom	37
The Performance Pressure Cooker	38
Diminishing Returns	40
Stepping Back to Ask Bigger Questions	41
High Stress, Low Curiosity	43
CHAPTER 6. Reengineering Learning With Curiosity in Mind	45
The Furthest Thing From Our Minds	46
Schooling With Curiosity in Mind	46
Designing Curious Classrooms	50
A New Crossroads	55
A Path Less Traveled	57
A Tool Kit for Creating More Curious Classrooms	59
PART III: CURIOSITY IN SCHOOL COMMUNITIES	65
CHAPTER 7. When Teams Lose Their Curiosity	67
Blunders, Blind Spots, and Bad Fixes:	
Incuriosity at Work	68
Lazy Brains and Groupthink	69
Using Data as a Window (Into Others' Problems)	71
Creating Collective Curiosity	72

CHAPTER 8. Inquire Within	75
When Curiosity Comes to Work	76
Curiosity Thinking on the Job	78
Curiosity Starts at the Top	78
Hiring Curiosity	80
Hiring the Best and Brightest . . . Or Most Curious?	81
CHAPTER 9. Creating Curious Organizations	87
Cultivating Collective Curiosity	88
Leading With Questions	94
Opening New Doors	95
A Tool Kit for Unleashing Teacher Curiosity	96
PART IV: CURIOUS AT HEART	103
CHAPTER 10. Alone Together	105
Replacing Interpersonal With Impersonal	106
Bystanders in One Another's Lives	106
Looking for Differences in Indifference	108
Are We Becoming Less Empathetic?	108
iLonely	109
CHAPTER 11. Going Cold Turkey	113
The Curiosity Connection	114
Restoring the Lost Art of Quiet Conversation	114
Choosing Face-To-Face Over Facebook	115
Becoming Curious About One Another	116
Curious About Love	117
Thirty-Six Questions to Intimacy	118
CHAPTER 12. Falling in Love With Curiosity	121
I Like You When You're Curious About Me	121
Turning Small Talk Into Dialogue	123
The Perils of Feeling Your Pain	124

Compassionate Curiosity	125
Connecting With Curiosity	128
A Tool Kit for Encouraging Interpersonal Curiosity	129
PART V: CURIOUS FOR GOOD	135
CHAPTER 13. The Search for Happiness	137
Red, White, and the Blues	138
Different Types of Happiness	140
Does Curiosity Lead to Happiness . . . or Misery?	141
CHAPTER 14. Curiously Happy	143
Give Me A C: What Happens When Students Are Curious	143
“Recharging” With Curiosity	144
The Link Between Curiosity and Life Satisfaction	145
Does Curiosity Chase Away the Blues?	146
Using Curiosity to Navigate Emotional Crises	147
CHAPTER 15. A Wonderful Life	149
Take A Look Around . . . and Inside	149
Using Curiosity to Reexamine Our Own “Stinking Thinking”	150
Looking In All the Wrong Places	152
Looking to Others	153
Turning Curiosity Into Happiness	154
Happiness Is Right Under Our Noses	156
Tools to Support Curious Well-Being	157
EPILOGUE: Standing at a Curious Crossroads	165
Do We Really Have Time for Curiosity?	166
Every Kid Deserves a Curious School	167
Imagine All the (Curious) People	168
It All Starts With a Spark	169
References	171
Index	185