

The Carpenter and The Gardener

By Dr. Diana Bermudez © 2019, www.amarecenter.com

Based on “The Gardener and The Carpenter” by Dr. Alison Gopnik



PARENTING
= task to accomplish, competitive

BEING A PARENT = experience to enjoy, not comparable

PARENT = expert who knows the “How to...”

CHILD = moldable creation of the parents

CHILD = unique thriving force supported by parents

PARENT = learning from child and relationships

LONG-TERM GOAL = kind of person of parent’s choice

FOCUS NOW = outcomes, achievement

FOCUS NOW = joy, surprises

LONG-TERM GOAL = kind of person of child’s choice

ENVIRONMENT = structured, protected and controlled

ENVIRONMENT = nurturing, workable and ever-changing



Science shows that being the parent of resilient/adaptable children is like gardening, because children best develop through play, experimentation and innovation. However, parenting like a carpenter has become common in the US due to social changes in 20th century: smaller families, distance from extended family, and older first-time parents.