Another Voice for the Benefits of Chess for Children

Susan Polgar, a former Women's World Chess Champion, has said:

"According to research, [academic] test scores improved by 17.3% for students regularly engaged in chess classes, compared with only 4.6% for children participating in other forms of enriched activities."

She has been promoting chess for children for many years in the United States, a nation that actively promotes sports for the physical development of students but promotes intellectual competition (like chess) much less than European countries promote the game in schools.

She has also said the following:

"You have to be responsible for your actions, you make a move, you had better think ahead about what's going to happen, not after it happens, because then it's too late. Chess teaches discipline from a very early age. It teaches you to have a plan and to plan ahead. If you do that, you'll be rewarded; if you break the rules, you will get punished in life and in chess."

It's hard to object to that kind of logic.

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Chess for the Early Beginner

"This 194-page paperback was written with a modest goal:

Teach and prepare the raw beginner to win a game of chess, even if it's against another raw beginner."

Susan Polgar Foundation

"In approximately 30 nations across the globe, including Brazil, China, Venezuela, Italy, Israel, Russia and Greece, etc., chess is incorporated into the country's scholastic curriculum."

Chess Benefits New York City Children

"Chess dramatically improves a child's ability to think rationally"