

next level learning

* *Address: 850 7th Avenue between 54th and 55th Streets*

Phone: 212-957-9100

Ideal Age: 6 to 14

Admission: Check website for current tutoring rates

Website: www.nyclearn.com

Parents everywhere want their children to get a good education. In New York City, academic competition is heightened by a highly selective admissions process to the best schools, along with increasing pressure to perform on standardized tests. As a result, more and more parents are seeking outside tutoring services as a way to help their kids stay ahead. You need look no further than Next Level Learning, a midtown center that specializes in a one-on-one, personalized approach. Next Level's director, Valerie Fitzhugh, has an almost preternatural ability to connect with kids, an extraordinary gift that she seems to have conveyed to her competent staff of top-tier educators. Valerie believes that all kids are curious, smart, creative and capable. They freak out and fall behind in school when they get intimidated by new concepts, lose confidence, or start to believe they are less intelligent than other kids. At Next Level, success is achieved by creating a caring relationship with each student that allows him or her to relax, become engaged, and have fun learning again. Fast progress is the result. I have seen the Next Level team in action and it's impressive. Kids are smiling and joking with tutors, tutors are high-fiving and encouraging kids, ideas are flying, confidence is building, and learning is happening. It's a playful, yet powerful scene. It doesn't hurt that Next Level Learning has the lowest rates for one-on-one tutoring in the city, so families are ensured an excellent value in these tight economic times.