

# CLASS – 11

## PSYCHOLOGY

### Chapter – 5

#### Learning

#### Part – 4

#### Cognitive Learning

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1. Meaning of Learning
2. Classical Conditioning
3. Operant Conditioning
4. Key learning Processes
5. Observational Learning
6. Cognitive Learning
7. Verbal Learning
8. Skill Learning
9. Factors that Facilitate Learning
10. Learning Disabilities

# COGNITIVE LEARNING

Learning focuses on the **internal mental processes** such as :

- ✧ thinking,
- ✧ memory,
- ✧ problem-solving,
- ✧ understanding

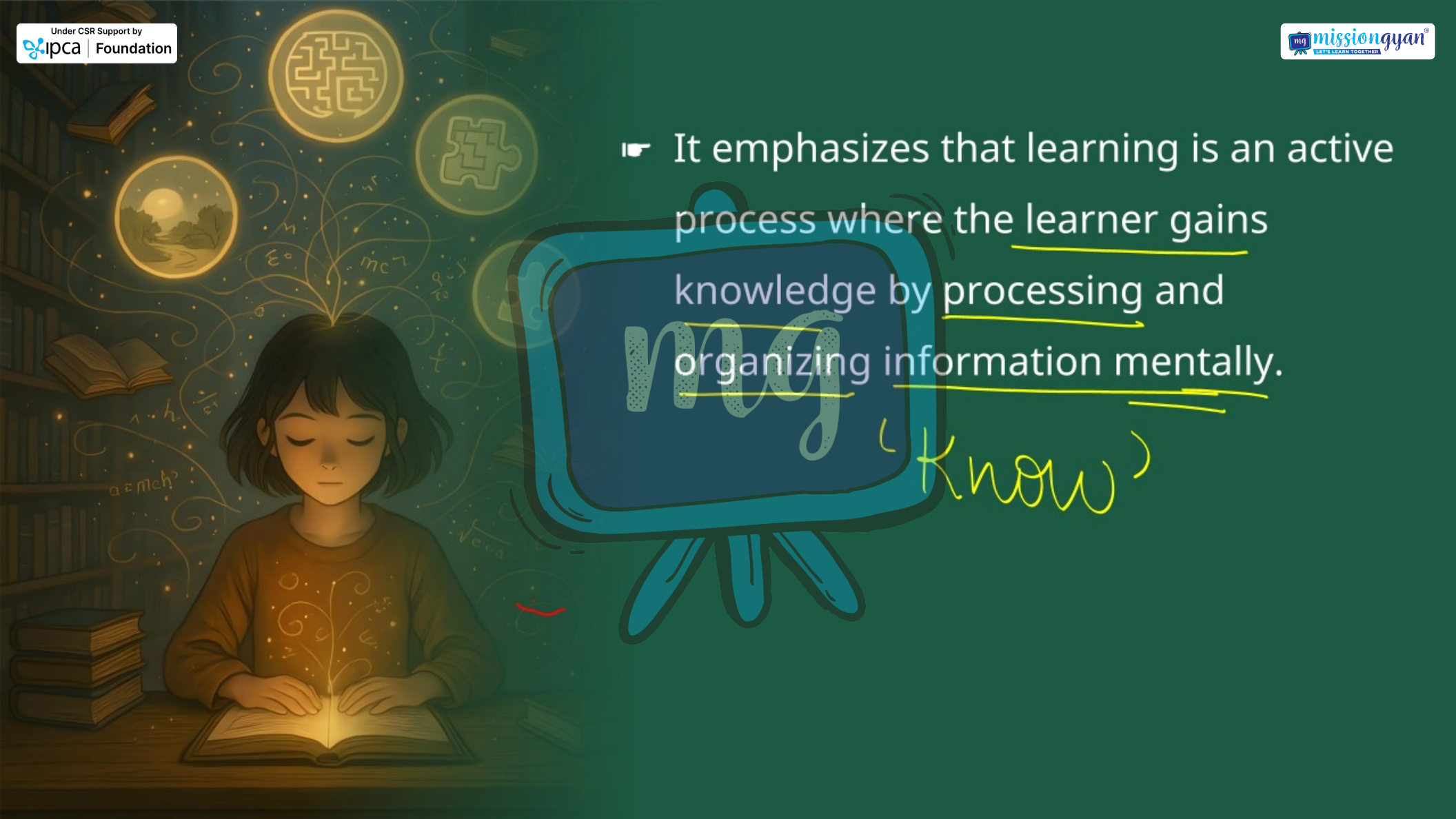




- It emphasizes that learning is an active process where the learner gains knowledge by processing and organizing information mentally.

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# KEY FEATURES OF COGNITIVE LEARNING

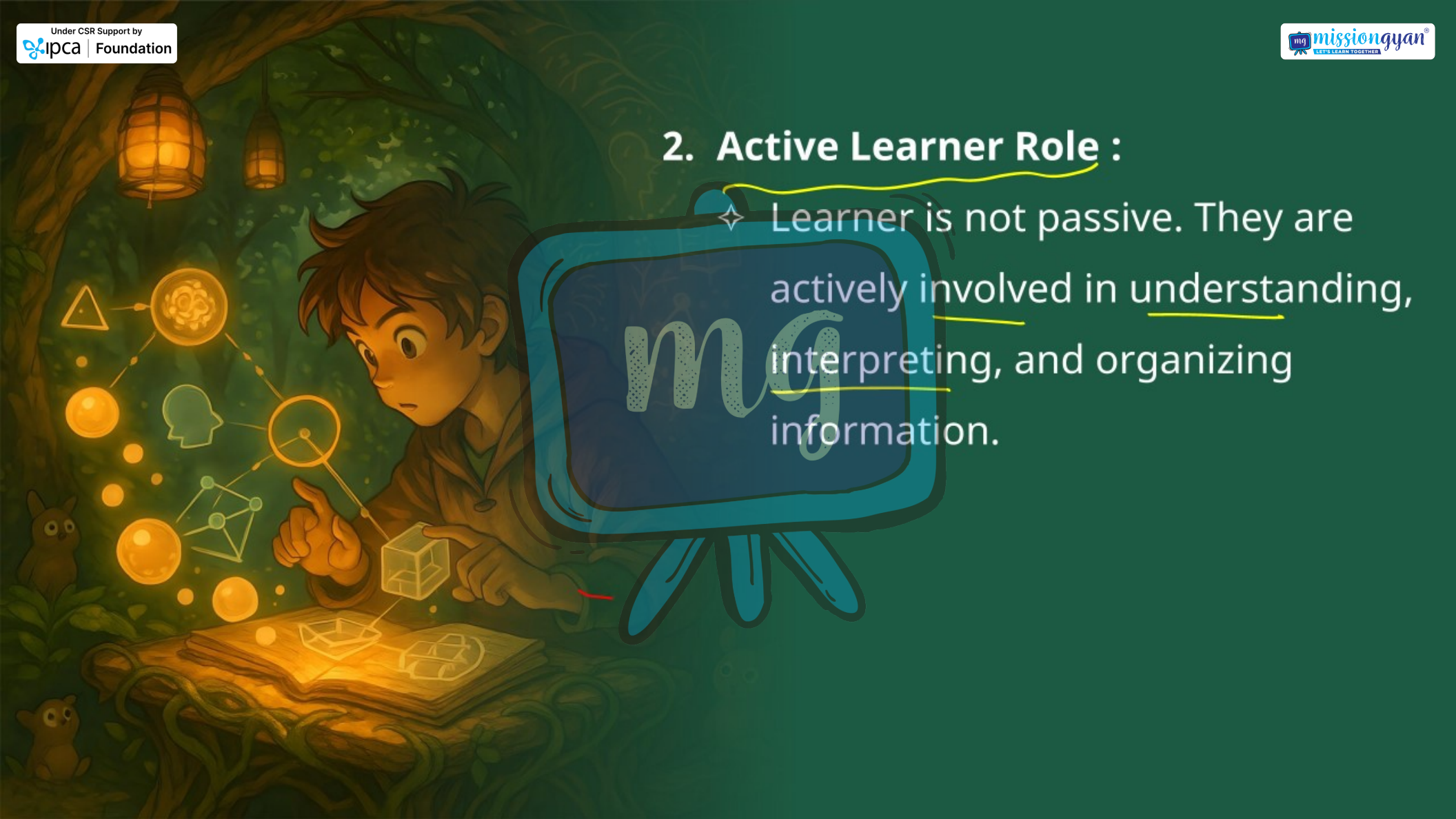
## 1. Involves Mental Activities :

- ✦ Unlike classical or operant conditioning, it is based on how the mind processes information.



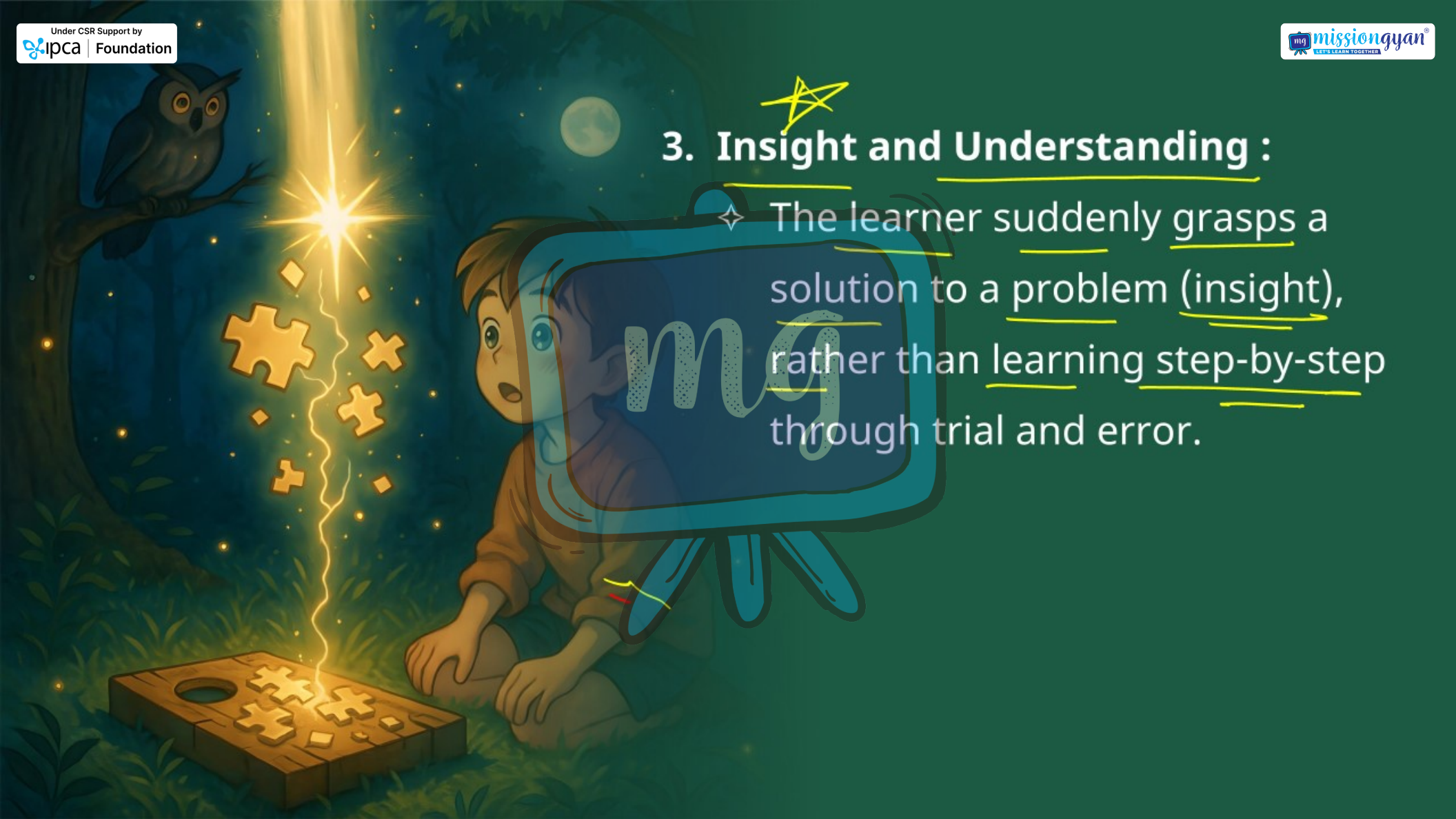
## 2. Active Learner Role :

✦ Learner is not passive. They are actively involved in understanding, interpreting, and organizing information.



### 3. Insight and Understanding :

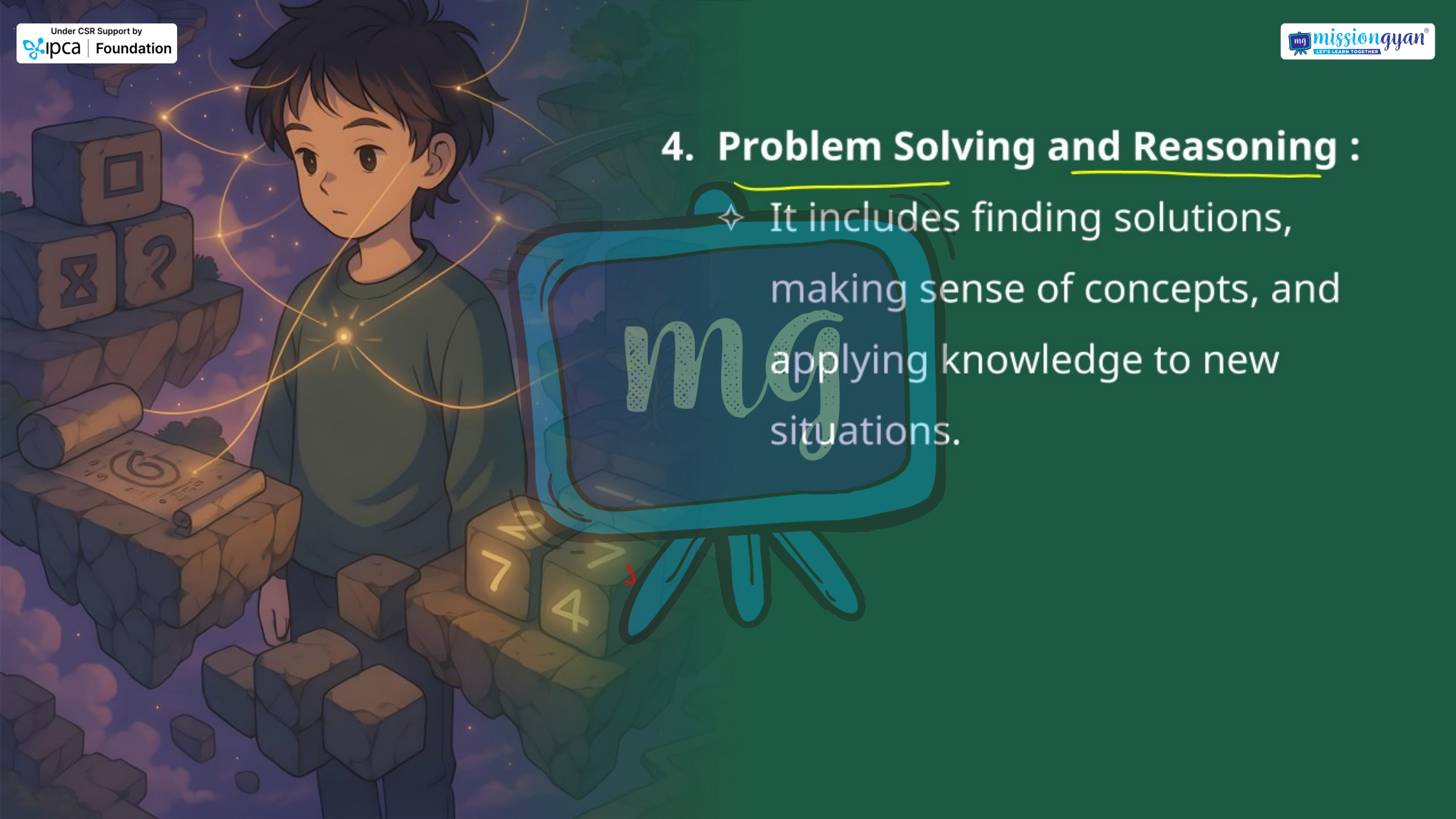
✧ The learner suddenly grasps a solution to a problem (insight), rather than learning step-by-step through trial and error.





## 4. Problem Solving and Reasoning :

✦ It includes finding solutions, making sense of concepts, and applying knowledge to new situations.





## INSIGHT LEARNING – WOLFGANG KÖHLER

- Köhler worked with chimpanzees and observed insight learning.
- In one experiment, a chimp named Sultan was placed in a cage with a banana hanging from the top and sticks or boxes lying nearby.

## OBSERVATIONS

- Sultan did not immediately get the banana.
- He observed the environment, then suddenly used tools (sticks/boxes) to reach the banana.
- This was called an "Aha!" moment or sudden realization — showing learning by insight.





## KEY CHARACTERISTICS OF INSIGHT LEARNING

1. Suddenness : Solution appears suddenly after thinking.
2. Understanding Relationships : Learner sees the relationship between parts of the problem.
3. Not Trial and Error : Insight occurs without random attempts.

4. Transferable : Once learned, the insight can be applied to other similar situations.

5. Goal-directed behavior : Learner is focused on solving the problem.





## Comparison with Trial & Error Learning

Trial and Error	Insight Learning
<u>Random attempts</u>	<u>Mental restructuring</u>
<u>Slow and gradual</u>	<u>Sudden understanding</u>
<u>No understanding of concept</u>	<u>Deep understanding</u>
<u>Often used by animals</u>	Used by <u>humans</u> and <u>higher animals</u>

## LATENT LEARNING – EDWARD TOLMAN

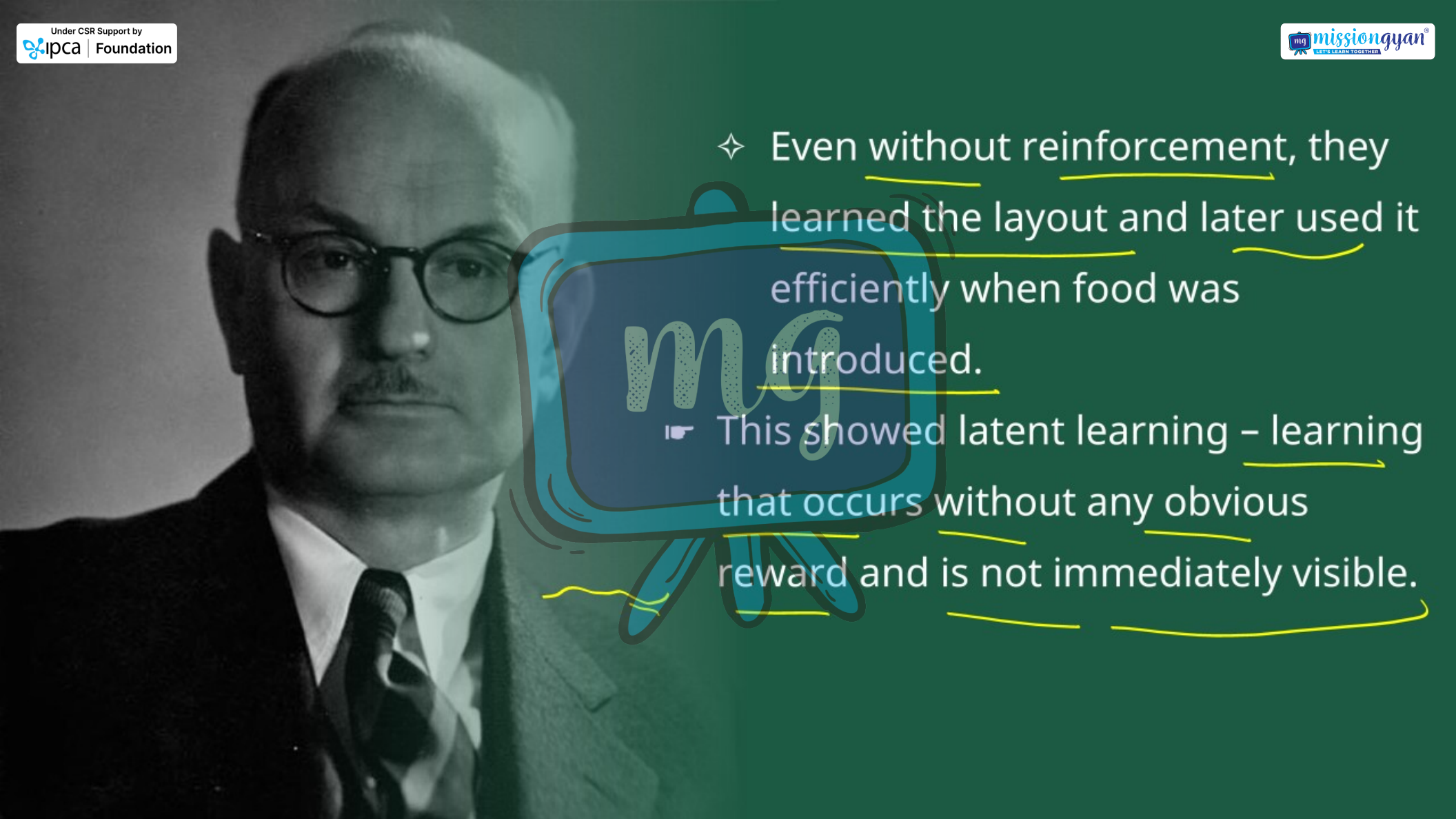
- ☛ Tolman showed that rats create **HIDDEN cognitive maps** (mental representations of their environment).

- ☛ In his experiment:

- ✦ Rats learned to navigate a maze.

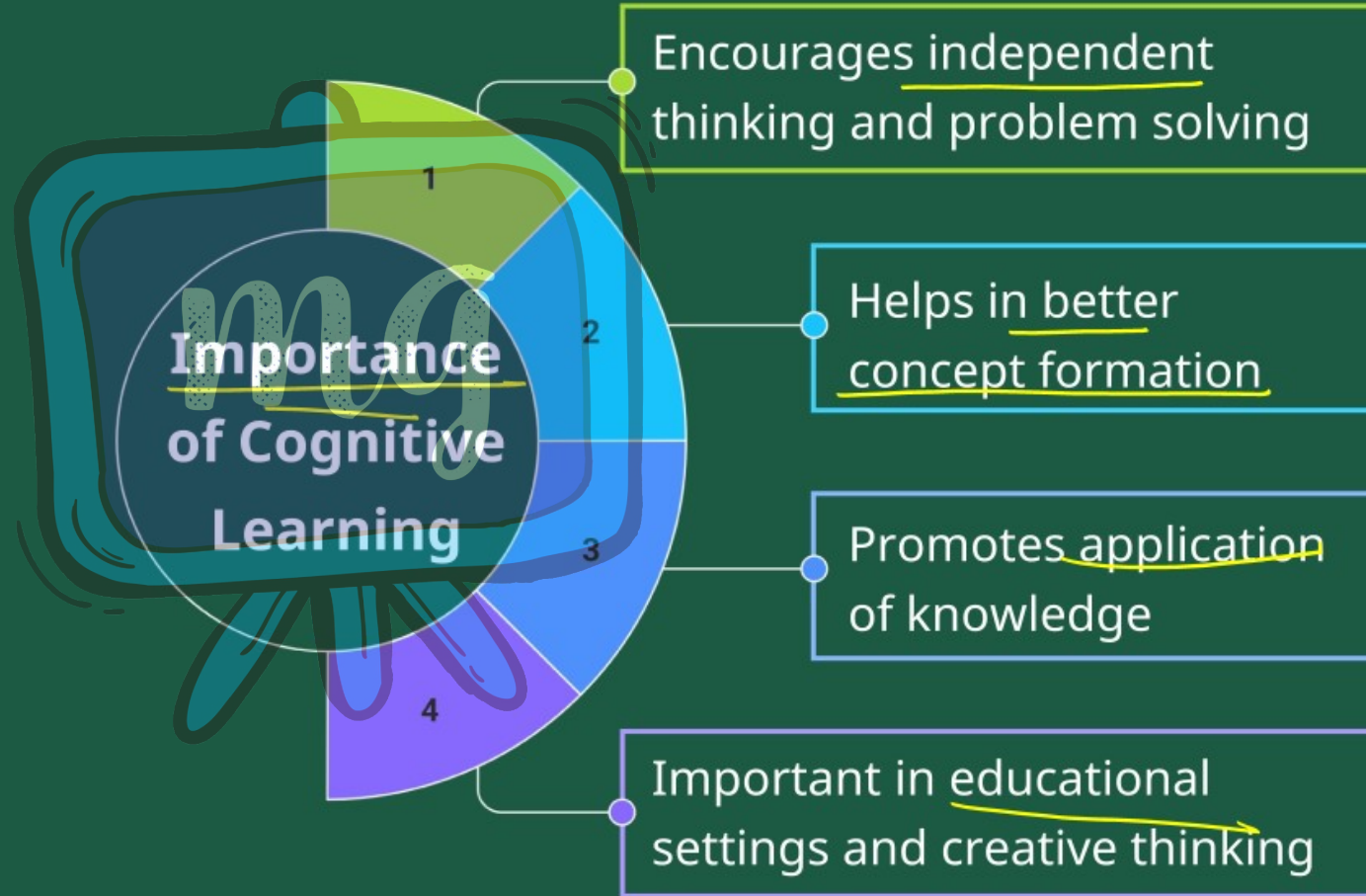


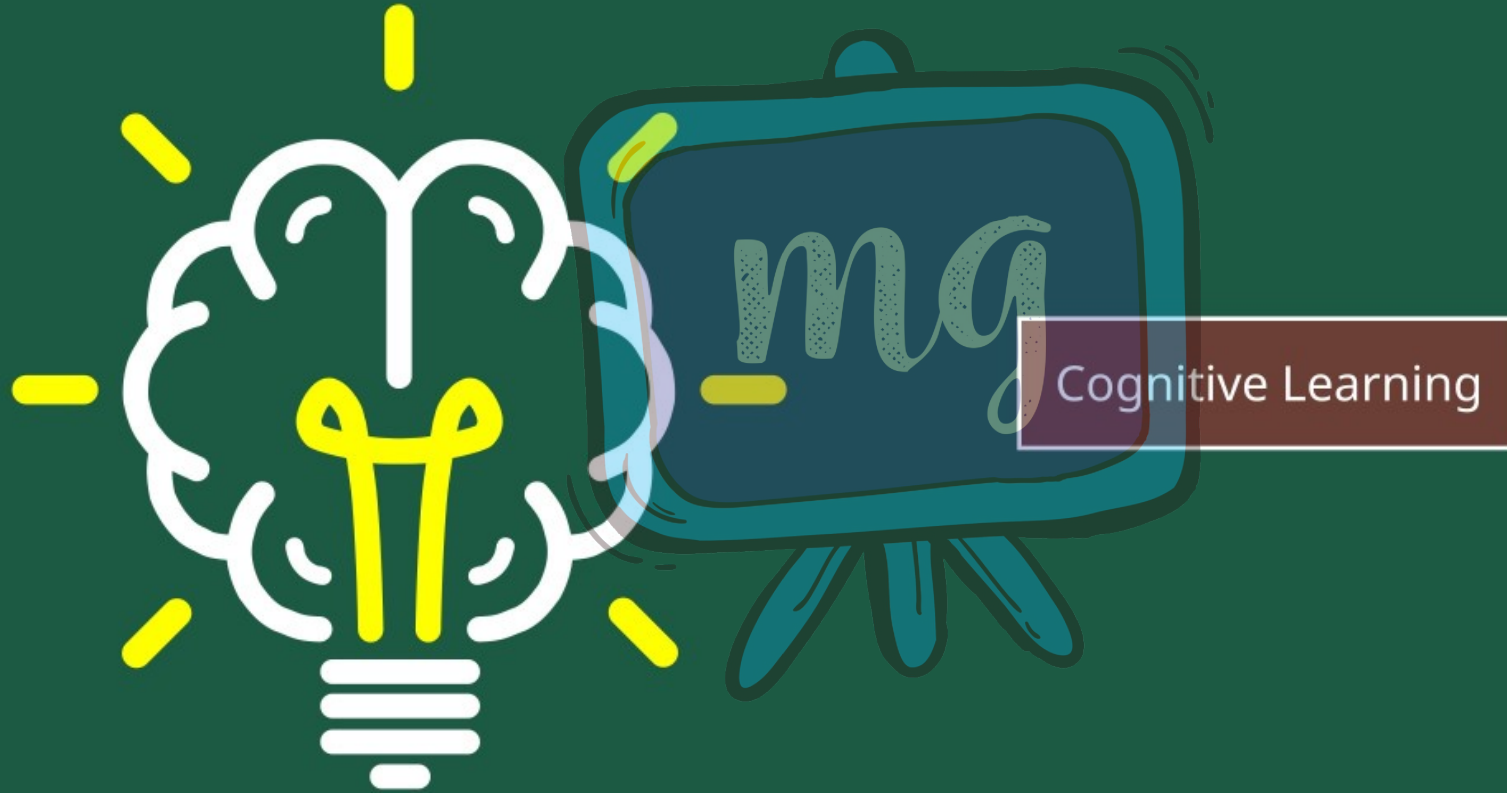




✧ Even without reinforcement, they learned the layout and later used it efficiently when food was introduced.

- ▮ This showed latent learning – learning that occurs without any obvious reward and is not immediately visible.







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Cognitive learning emphasizes:

- ☐ A Trial-and-error behavior
- ☐ B Reflexes and conditioning
- ☐ C Mental processes like thinking and understanding
- ☐ D Passive absorption of knowledge

2

Who is known for the concept of  
'Insight Learning'?

- ☐ A B.F. Skinner
- ☐ B Edward Thorndike
- ☐ C Albert Bandura
- ☐ D Wolfgang Köhler

D

3

In Tolman's experiments, rats in a maze developed a 'cognitive map'. What does this term mean?

- ☐ A A set of conditioned reflexes
- ☐ B A mental representation of the layout
- ☐ C A memory of punishment
- ☐ D A distraction technique