Stories to Scaffold Learning and Creative Awareness in Adult Learners

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Work-in-Progress | November 6, 2017

Exercise 1 Erasure With Line (you'll need pencil and paper)

I'm going to give you a set of instructions to follow. These instructions are **intentionally** cryptic.

You can't ask any questions.

You must reason your way through the problem.

Using line only, draw one simple geometric shape, such as a square, triangle or circle.

Without overlapping or intersecting, draw a different shape.

Now, draw another.

Choose your favorite.

Make the other 2 like your favorite.

Enlarge one of them.

Make one shape touch one edge of the page.

Make the other two touch two different sides.

Without moving the shapes from the sides, make each touch the other two.

Introduce a new shape that's different.

Keeping the original 3 shapes in the same places, make them like the new shape.

Make one shape larger than all the others.

Make one 50% smaller than the largest shape.

Make one of the 2 remaining shapes touch 2 sides of the page.

Share your work.

Exercise ² Narrative Building

Participants divide into groups at tables of at least 4, and no more than 6 individuals.

Each table is furnished with a different assortment of materials.

What things are **Universally** compelling or enticing to kids?

Sample Prompts:

- Robots & Monsters
- Real & Fantasy Animals
- Outer Space
- Junk Food
- Bodily Functions (poop, pee, farts, barf, etc)

Exercise 3 Narrative Disruption

You can't ask any questions.

Trade prompts with a neighboring table.

Exercise 3 Narrative Disruption

Using your new prompt, and the materials at hand, make something fun.

You have 15 minutes :)

Working Principles

What inhibition limits, joy enhances.

Creativity is contagious.

It's not too late to accept yourself as creative.

Practices:

- Robots & Monsters
- Real & Fantasy Animals
- Outer Space
- Junk Food
- Bodily Functions (poop, pee, farts, barf, etc)

References

- Vygotsky, L. (1978). Interaction Between Learning and Development. In Gauvian & Cole (Eds.) Readings on the Development of Children. New York: Scientific American Books. Pp. 34-40.
- 2. Petrovich, D., & White, R. (2012). *Draw it with your eyes closed: the art of the art assignment*. Brooklyn, NY: Paper Monument.