Profiles in Playfulness

Playful Learning Activity Card



Purpose

Part of the why chapter of the course, this assignment helps students reflect on the value of play and playfulness in the world.

Assignment (from the syllabus)

Building on the examples provided in class, describe a playful learner you know about or have observed in your own life. This may be a child, a family or community member, a colleague or fellow student, or a historical or current teacher, scientist, athlete, artist, leader etc. Describe the qualities that exemplify why this person has a playful mindset and how they engage in playful learning. Make connections with course readings and topics we have explored in class so far. NOTE: You are encouraged to complete this in a video or podcast format rather than a written entry - examples will be shared in class.

Setting up the assignment

- Provide examples of playful learners in class. The PoP team has created short videos about Nelson Mandela, Niels Bohr and Debbie LeeKeenan which you can use (link to accessing these here and/or reference to location in the book).
- ▶ Help students generate ideas for their playful learner. A roadblock for some students will be finding their playful learner. In class, have students turn and talk to a partner about possibilities. You can also create a class brainstorm list of possible examples (community or political leaders, scientists, educators, artists, athletes, family members...)

Extending the learning

 Create a gallery (virtual or physical) of the students' assignments to view and discuss, providing your students a wide range of playful learners to consider





More than One Way

- Examples of playful learners. Create an example that you feel will resonate with your students for example a well-known member of your local community, or a well-known leader or historical figure from your geography.
- Provide choice in how students can share their profiles. PowerPoint, a tic tok video, a podcast, and a recorded interview with their playful learner (real or reenacted) are all possibilities.
- Invite students to collaborate in pairs or small groups if desired

