Working with Wonder for Wonderful Learning

Boxes of Learning Delight and Cabinets of Curiosities

‘This is magic. Not magic as trickery or deceit, but magic in the unravelling and enjoyment of mysteries and the growing and maintaining of wonder.’

Ranulph Glanville, 2001

Matthew McFall, Learning Sciences Research Institute, University of Nottingham
Wo’nder

Etymologies

Old English wundor; Old Norse undr ‘portent’
Latin portendere to stretch

‘Consensus’ Definitions

n. ‘The state of mind produced by something new, unexpected, or extraordinary...’ Chambers

n. ‘emotion excited by what surpasses expectation or experience or seems inexplicable; surprise mingled with admiration or curiosity or bewilderment.’

v. ‘be filled with wonder, feel surprise’

v. ‘be curious, desire, to know.’ OED

Wonder
Wondering
Affect
Cognition
Wo’nder

Literatures
... The Emerald Tablet... Hero of Alexandria... Plato... Aristotle... Gervaise of Tilbury... Descartes... Wilkins... Pestalozzi... Dodgson... Montessori... Steiner... Carson... Pask... Cobb... von Foerster... Hepburn... Opdal... Stafford and Terpak... Duckworth... Tomkins and Tunnicliffe... Dyer... Gage...

Conceptions

‘It’s when something surprises you in a good way and you want to find out more’

‘I think ants are wonderful because they live rich ingenious lives and their biomass is greater than the biomass of all other living things.’

Phenomenography; Interview; Questionnaires; Opportunism...
Wo’nder

Constructions
'Finite but not bound...'}
....cost effectiveness, utility, ease of use, robustness, interest, potency...
EVIDENCE®

RE:PRESENTING

ARRAYS

*Latin: E(videre see)
Saint Jerome in his Study
Antonello da Messina c.1475
C.344-420.
Patron saint of archivists, librarians, and students.
BLACK BOX: Ludic Conception-Collecting Device
RED BOX:

- Collecting
- Nets
- Mystery Focus
- Show-and-Tell
- Speed Object Lesson
Slide 21

**ORANGE BOX:**
- Treasure Hunt
- Scavenger Hunt

**YELLOW BOX:**
- Nature Table
- Wonder Table
GREENBOX: Happening
Wonder
WOLLATON HALL & PARK

Tuesday 31 June 2009

Be a wonderer and a wanderer for the day...
Seek, reveal, & celebrate the wonders of the Hall & Park!

You will be working in one of these Teams to complete quests:
BLASCHKA + CORVUS + HEATHCOAT + MERCURY + WILLSHPBY

Each Team will have 3 Quests during the day: a different quest in the morning & afternoon plus a unique visit to the Hall's curiosities.

In your Team you will investigate these Realms:
ANIMALS & ECOSYSTEMS
ARTISTRY & CREATIVITY
DESIGN & ARCHITECTURE
DEVICES & MACHINES
TREES & PLANTS
WONDER & CURIOSITY

If you find yourself wondering about something today, write your question or thoughts on WONDER CARDS...
Share your wonderings with our panel of expert wonderers!
Your questions and observations will feature in the Afternoon Show.

The final treat of the day – THE AFTERNOON SHOW.
Share and swap the wonders we have found in our quests.
With special visitors and a team of Wonder Experts!

WONDER WORK: Be a true Wonderer and help document the day’s quests and encounters. Evidence and art generated today could be part of the School Wonder Event on 15 July!
NEEDING WONDER? ideas

Here some thoughts on how you might generate wonder and wondering on your search. Can you think of any more strategies? Talk to Matthew...!

From time to time, you might hear a bell ring. When you notice the bell, stop what you are doing. Pay attention to your breathing. Whenever you are ready: continue with your Quest!

Look at things from a different angle

Count the seconds

Stretch

SMILE!

"Wonder" means many things. Different people experience wonder in different ways. Many agree that wonder has at least two facets:

You can 'feel'

wonder.

A feeling of wonder? Some say it springs from excitement, surprise, curiosity, puzzlement, mystery - and more - and sometimes all rolled into one. You might feel it when you encounter new and intriguing things, or when you experience wondering... Suddenly a question springs to mind: 'I wonder how my heart beats?' 'I wonder what fire is?', 'I wonder where my thoughts come from?' Wonder away... See if you can find an answer...

You can wonder about...

People talk of being 'titled' with wonder.

Wonder is when you can't believe your eyes.

Wonder is when you can't believe your eyes.

Wonder is finding the extraordinary.

Sometimes feeling wonder can lead us to wondering... sometimes wondering leads us to feel wonder... whether or not we find an answer to our question....
WHITE BOX: THE SHOW
Wonder and Change
Magic and Change
Learning and Change
Transforming Spaces
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