Habits of Mind

Responding with Wonderment and Awe

Students' Handout

Worksheet B
Responding with Wonderment and Awe

Have you ever wondered…

how mummies are wrapped?

who invented the refrigerator and how?

about
the origins of football?

about how much money does
David Beckham/Justin Timberlake/Paris Hilton make in a year?

how babies are born?

More questions….

how a school would look like without classrooms and teachers?
what goes on in your teachers' minds?
how a plane flies?
What are werewolves and Draculas? Are there ghosts in this world?

Indicators of Wonderment

When you begin to learn with wonderment and awe, you should have the following qualities:

- become self directed learners
    - You would naturally want to know a lot more about things (how things are formed, what are they used for, how do they affect us.
    - You can start learning independently; there is no need for anyone to tell you to research more on the topic. You just naturally want to find out more about it yourself.
    - You seek and enjoy solving problems on your own. For example, doing that mind boggling mathematics sum is no longer a drag, but its actually fun!
    - You develop "I Can" attitude towards difficult tasks and situations; instead of giving up and adopting a negative attitude.
- Motivated to learn without the need to get lots of extrinsic rewards(e.g. prizes, presents) to motivate your learning.
- develop an "I Enjoy Learning" mentality
    - exhibit a sense of enthusiasm and curiosity about things around you.
    - possess a sense of excitement on learning new ideas.
    - exhibit a passion for thinking and learning.
    - responding with joy in thinking and learning.
- seeking other's views and learning empathetically
    - ability to show empathy towards others.
    - reacting to situations with compassion.
- motivate those around you to enjoy the learning and thought process.

Louis Armstrong

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD

(George Weiss / Bob Thiele)

I see trees of green, red roses too
I see them bloom for me and you
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world

I see skies of blue and clouds of white
The bright blessed day, t he dark sacred night
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world

The colours of the rainbow, so pretty in the sky
Are also on the faces of people going by
I see friends shakin' hands, sayin' "How do you do?"
They're really saying "I love you"

I hear babies cryin', I watch them grow
They'll learn much more than I'll ever know
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world
Yes, I think to myself, what a wonderful world

Oh yeah

This song was sung by the legendary Louis Armstrong, one of the pioneers of Jazz. Released in 1968, it topped the music charts in the United Kingdom. Today, it remains a favourite with millions around the world. With its simple yet profound lyrics, it serves as a platform for the listeners to imagine the wonders of the world.

- What do you think inspired the writers to write this song?
- What are some thoughts that you have from listening to this song?
- What are some things in nature that inspire or amaze you?
- Take 5-10 minutes to share your ideas and thoughts with your classmates.

Wonderment pictures

Apple

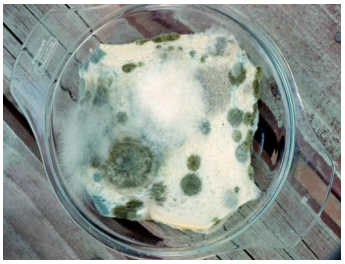
Birds in the sky

Charcoal

Coconut Trees

Leaf

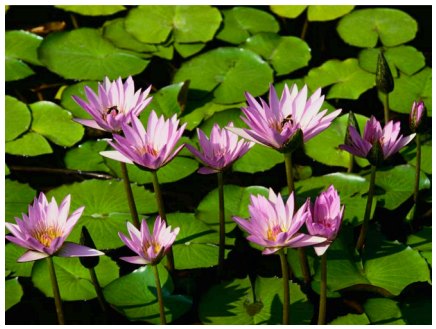
Lightning



mouldy bread

rubber

eclipse



water lily

WEB

WOOD

☺ *INVENTIONS* ☺

Take a second look at the pictures given to you. With your group members, start wondering… what inventions were made from looking at these ordinary everyday things. Below are some questions you might want to consider when your group brainstorms about your inventions.

-Charcoal : Charcoal has many uses, from cooking fuel to art materials.
However, it can cause very stubborn staining,can you invent something that would stop charcoal from staining?

- **A big leaf: The umbrella was invented by the big leaf.**

Consider the structure and texture of the big leaf. What other things can you invent from this idea?

- **Moldy bread: This simple invention saved millions of lives, penicillin was the antibiotics that was invented from moldy bread. Hard to believe?**

Can you invent something to take the mold out from the bread?

- **Coconut: Coconuts can be used as a food source, for ropes and as thatched roofs in many parts of the world,**

What can you do with different parts of the coconut? Are there any other inventions you can create from a simple fruit?

- **Rubber tree: Latex from rubber can be made into lots of products like erasers, rubber bands and many other products.**

Think about how rubber's useful to you as a student and in your everyday life.

- **Birds flying in the sky: Man has been fascinated with the idea of flying by looking at the birds. Early inventions of the air plane were modeled after the wings of birds.**

What makes birds able to fly? What can you invent from this idea? (airplanes, helicopters, paper planes are not allowed)

- **Water Lilies: What are some inventions that are created from water lilies? Find out more about it?**

How does the water lilies grow out from the water? What can you invent from this idea?

- Do you think you can invent something on your own by looking at the pictures? You can draw your inventions on the mahjong paper together or map put your ideas in mind maps or a simple flow chart.
- Some of the pictures like the apple, lighting, wood, spider web and eclipse do not have any explanations on inventions inspired by them. Perhaps you might like to take up this challenge to come up with exciting and fun inventions with your classmates.
- Write an explanation of no more than 50 words on your invention and use a simple sketch to illustrate your inventions.

Have fun….Make sure that your inventions are displayed in your classroom for all to see.

Our invention is based on the picture of

_____

Write up on our invention

Sketch of our invention:

Thinking Behaviours Performance Checklist
Responding with Wonderment & Awe
To be printed for each pupil

Responding with Wonderment Observable Indicators		Often	Sometimes	Not yet
What it looks like:	resonding with joy in thinking and learning.			
	reacting to situations with compassion			
	do not need extrinsic rewards to motivate their learning			
	naturally want to know a lot more about things that interest them			
	Exhibits a sense of enthusiasm and curiosity about things around them.			
What is sounds like:	motivate those around them to enjoy the thought process: "fantastic idea!"			
	articulates an "I Enjoy Learning" mentality			
	possess a sense of excitement on learning new ideas: "what a brilliant invention!"			
	naturally want to know a lot more about things that interest them.			
Notes				

Adapted from Tahoma School District, Thinking Behaviours Performance Checklist by Nancy Skeritt