

- learn together whatever the age
- experiment more
- focus
- scale down and develop the thinking and
- have less as more
- interests)
- over more than one day (developing their
- enable children to follow their interests
- responses
- be even more tuned in to children's
- model uses of open ended resources
- use an OHP
- use wire
- purchase lining paper and use it!
- In my setting I will....



Materials used:

- lining paper
- mudroc
- theatre gels
- string
- masking tape
- wire
- rubber bands
- overhead projector
- sand
- mirrored card



Without imagination we should be lost; for only with its help can we interpret our experience, turn it into experience of an outer world, and thus make use of it in understanding what and where we are, and what we need to do;'

Mary Warnock



**Imagination and empathy  
A workshop for early years  
educators at Homerton Nursery,  
Cambridge 4th January 2011  
facilitated by Sally Brown**

Cambridge Curiosity and Imagination



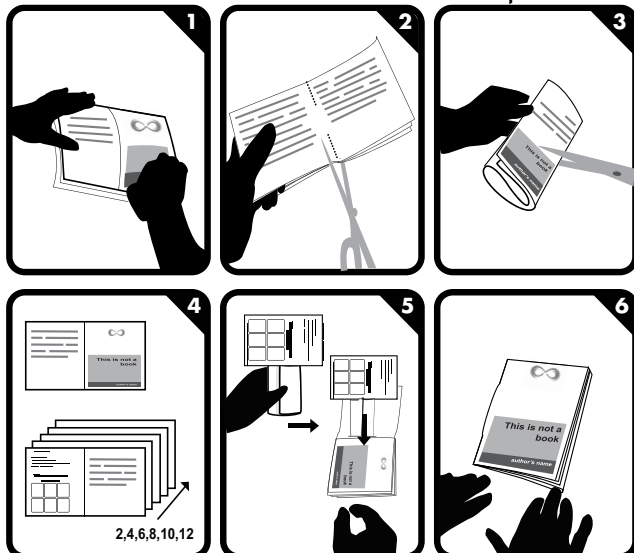
- adaptability
- letting go
- transformation
- comfort zone and leaving it
- life
- independence
- shared experience
- labour of love
- awe/discovery
- stimulating of senses

2011-01-12

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This session made me think that learning....  
 - is never ending... is complicated and  
 simple.. is never too late.. can be fun.. is living



In the session, we:  
 visualised a personal and rich learning  
 memory  
 engaged with the external world by  
 transforming an object  
 collaborated in groups to alter the  
 environment  
 reflected on our shared experience.

We began by referring to the history of  
 Homerton nursery (built in the war as a  
 refuge for evacuee children) and of its  
 continuing commitment today to nourish and  
 support children's independence and love of  
 learning and curiosity.

With this in mind, I invited you to take an  
 imaginative leap into the child's world of  
 exploration and invention, through playful  
 experimentation with objects and materials.



- experimenting
  - empathising
  - challenging
  - sharing
  - using skills and experience
  - resisting
  - listening
  - playing
  - remembering
  - thinking
  - exploring
- Doing words:



- choosing
- articulating
- expressing
- trusting
- waiting

Collected themes of a rich learning memory:

- exploring/overcoming fear
- persistence
- challenge
- feeling safe with loved ones/family
- modelling behaviour
- real life skills
- difficulty
- environment/nature
- 'magical'
- happiness
- social games
- invention/creativity
- aspiration/achievement
- passing on the learning
- taking risk

- I wonder why....
- we suppress creativity in school
- we wonder
- where's the awe
- 'education' allows so little time to wonder
- we feel we don't have time
- we don't do this!
- people don't think they're artistic
- we worry about getting it 'right'
- I would like to tell others....
- have a go (don't be afraid)
- your creative effort is valued
- being creative is stimulating
- it's fun to work together
- that being open ended is ok/good
- let go
- have/give/take time to be creative
- it's not about what others think

I was surprised that....

- it stimulated memories
- how fast time flew by
- I do have some creative cells
- there were so many different responses/ideas
- I learned so much about my colleagues
- lots of forgotten memories and feelings came flooding back
- I was so tired by the end!
- It was so fun

