



Creativity: nurturing creative and critical thinking CPD

A DEEPER UNDERSTANDING CREATIVITY AND ITS IMPORTANCE IN EDUCATION, LOOKING AT WAYS TO ENCOURAGE CREATIVITY

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Description:

This CPD is designed to develop understanding of what creativity means and explore ways in which we can best encourage creativity. We will start by defining creativity and critical thinking and then looking at the different aspects of children's thinking that contribute to the process of developing ideas, looking at the 'Holistic Creativity Framework'

I will emphasise the importance of creativity as a fundamental skill that not only impacts on all areas of learning but also impacts on young children's long term outcomes to become resourceful and resilient adults. We will look at curriculum and see how creativity fits within the characteristics of effective learning and how it embraces all areas of learning.

The training will explore the many factors that facilitate children's creative and critical thinking and role we can play, from creating a conducive environment to working together with parents. In particular we will look at the role of the teacher in extending their thinking by looking at sustained shared thinking practice and how we can sensitively interact with children during the creative process. We will also consider ways in which we can observe children's creative progression especially in relation to their developing thinking skills. I will also highlight the importance of high quality documentation and reflective learning practice. We'll also get hands-on with some inspiring materials to get creative ourselves and get a sense of the possibilities they afford.

I have been researching creativity in education for many years and have developed the 'Holistic Creativity Framework' – a tool to better understand and support children's creative development and am currently writing the book 'Creativity in Practice' for Routledge. A comprehensive handout is included and links to additional resources.

Aims and objectives

From this course you will:

- Gain a thorough understanding of what creativity means
- Learn why creativity is so important in education and in life in general
- Look at the many elements that contribute to encouraging and nurturing young children's creativity
- Understand the dynamics of creativity through the 'Holistic Creativity Framework'
- Investigate the role of the teacher in extending creative and critical thinking
- Look at the role of the environment and resources
- The importance of documentation and reflective learning practice
- Working together with parents to support children's creative thinking
- Opportunity for practitioners to get hands-on and creative exploring different materials
- View examples of inspiring resources and provocations
- Explore how to best observe children's creative development

Pete Moorhouse is an early years creative consultant. He is an associate trainer for Early Education and a Froebel tutor and has delivered training in many countries. He is the author of several journal articles and books and was awarded an honorary research fellowship at Bristol University, currently researching creative and critical thinking in early years. Pete won the national award from the Creative Learning Guild for his work promoting creativity in education and is Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a Churchill Fellow.

AUDIENCE: HEADTEACHERS, EARLY YEARS LEADERS, MANAGERS, TEACHERS & PRACTITIONERS

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