

Failure in Making: Learner Assessment Questions

We all find challenges in making or doing things, especially when we're being creative.

Failure Mindset

To me, the word failure means.....

To me, when I'm making something, the word failure means....

These are things kids told us last summer about the word failure. Check all the ones you agree with.

- ☐ I don't like to use the word failure. If you fail, you try again. Nothing's perfect.
- ☐ Failure is when you lose in a competition.
- ☐ I don't think it's really failure. I think it's more of a learning experience. Like mistakes are what you learn from. It's not really failure; it's learning.
- ☐ Failure is when you give up. You can fail for both of those but failure, true failure, is when you give up on something and you just say, "Okay, that's it. I'm done. I'm not going to do it anymore."
- ☐ I think failure is when you don't try enough and then it doesn't go well. I think that's what failure is.
- ☐ Saying I failed is basically like saying "I don't think I can do this and I'm afraid to try."
- ☐ Failure is not being able to accomplish something.
- ☐ When there's nothing you can do about it. When something breaks or something doesn't go correctly, and you can't do anything about it.

What other words do you like to use to describe when something doesn't work out like you expect it to?

Problem Solving Strategies

When you're struggling with something you're making, what do you do next?

- ☐ Keep trying the same way
- ☐ Go find some information in a book or on the computer
- ☐ Think about it and use a new strategy to try again
- ☐ Tinker around trying little different things
- ☐ Ask a teacher/grown up for help
- ☐ Ask friend or another kid for help
- ☐ Give up and stop

What can your teacher or others help you to work through moments where your projects is not working the way you want?

Agree/Disagree responses...

- I prefer inventing my own ways to solve problems instead of doing what I've learned from a teacher or tutorial.
 - I enjoy working on challenging problems that do not have a set way of solving them.
 - When I solve problems, I always follow the procedures learned in class.
 - When I am stuck on a problem, I want someone to show me how to do it.
 - When I am stuck on a problem, I like hints that don't tell me too much, so I can figure it out myself.
 - When I am stuck on a problem, I play around with the problem for a while before examining ways that others have solved it.
 - When I am assigned an unfamiliar problem, I feel unsure about how to start solving it.
 - There is only one correct way to solve a problem.
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Emotional Response

When you hear the word “failure” how does it make you feel?

What does it feel like when you can’t figure something out?

What does it feel like when something you’ve been working on breaks, fails or doesn’t work out like you expect?

How do you show your feelings?

Other Questions

What are your hopes for the week?



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