

What is Learning?

Conversation Starter

OVERVIEW

These images provide an opportunity for a group to reflect on and share what they feel best represents learning. This activity can help professionals recognize that learning takes many forms and occurs in different settings across a person's lifetime.

Group size

Activity is ideal for a group of 8-10 people per deck of cards, but can be used with as few as 2 people.

MATERIALS

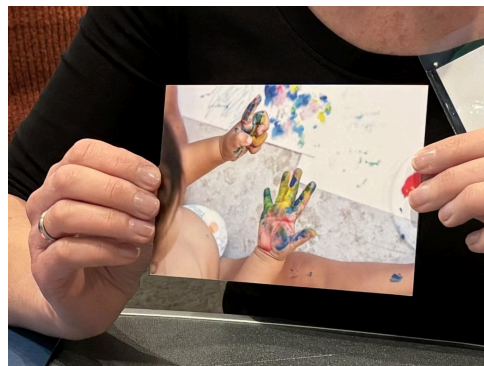
Deck of 62 photo cards (a smaller subset of photos could be used).

Please see instructions for printing options below.

PROMPT

Learning takes many forms and occurs in different settings across a person's lifetime.

1. First, look through the pictures and choose one that relates to how you think about learning.
2. Now, show your picture to the others in your group and explain why it represents learning to you.



FACILITATION NOTES

This icebreaker-style activity is intended to help professionals articulate what learning looks like and where and when it takes place. This can help surface different understandings and goals that inform how professionals approach their engagement and education work. You can use this activity in a variety of settings. For example, use the activity at internal project meetings to help teams achieve a common vision and understanding. Or at events where multiple projects, organizations, or initiatives are sharing what they do and why.

Introduce the activity by explaining that its purpose is to provide a way to reflect on and share different perspectives on learning. Participants can choose a printed photo card or pull up an image of their choosing on their phone. Emphasize there are no right or wrong answers in this activity. Be sure to allow time for participants to share and discuss their ideas.

PRINT YOUR OWN CARDS

Paper (ideally 8.5 x 11 inch cardstock or heavyweight paper)

Paper cutter

Print the photos using one of the following methods for printing:

1. DIY printing - 2 photos per page
 - Print on 8.5 x 11 inch paper (ideally cardstock or heavyweight paper)
 - Cut each sheet of paper in half using a paper cutter using crop lines
 - Final photo cards will be 8.5 x 5.5 inches including a white border
2. DIY printing - 6 photos per page
 - Print on 8.5 x 11 inch paper (ideally cardstock or heavyweight paper)
 - Cut each sheet of paper along the crop lines using a paper cutter
 - Final photo cards will be 4.25 x 3.83 inches including a white border
3. Professional printing - 2 photos per page
 - File is designed for a professional print shop with full-bleed and crop lines
 - Final photo cards will be 7.25 x 5.5 inches in without a white border
4. Professional printing - poker-size card deck
 - File is designed for a professional poker-size card deck with full-bleed
 - Final cards will be photos without a white border (each 2.5 x 3.5 inches in size)

CREDITS AND RIGHTS

Copyright 2024 Arizona State University.

Published under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-ShareAlike license:

<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/us/>

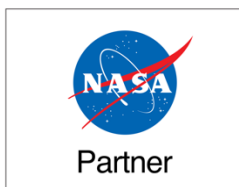
This activity was inspired by an exercise developed by Connie Schroeder, PhD, at the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

The images used in this activity are all sourced from Unsplash. The Unsplash Creative Commons 0 license allows all photos to be downloaded and used for free for commercial and non-commercial purposes. No permission is needed (though attribution is appreciated). Photos cannot be sold without significant modification. Compiling photos from Unsplash to replicate a similar or competing service is not permitted. <https://unsplash.com/license>

Individual Unsplash Photo Credits:

ALAN DE LA CRUZ <https://unsplash.com/@alandelacruz4>
Ali Elliott https://unsplash.com/@hello_ali
Alvaro Matzumura <https://unsplash.com/@alvaromatzumura>
Ana Klipper <https://unsplash.com/@anaklipper>
Andrew Seaman <https://unsplash.com/@amseaman>
Anna Samoylova <https://unsplash.com/@hagalnaud>
Anne Nygård <https://unsplash.com/@polarmermaid>
Ant Rozetsky <https://unsplash.com/@rozetsky>
Artem Kniaz https://unsplash.com/@artem_kniaz
Ashkan Forouzani <https://unsplash.com/@ashkfor121>
Austin Ramsey https://unsplash.com/@austin__ramsey
Blind Man https://unsplash.com/@b_man
Brandon Morgan <https://unsplash.com/@littleppl85>
CDC <https://unsplash.com/@cdc>
Centre for Ageing Better https://unsplash.com/@ageing_better
Chinh Le Duc https://unsplash.com/@mero_dnt
Chris Richmond <https://unsplash.com/@cjrvisions>
CHUTTERSNAAP <https://unsplash.com/@chuttersnap>
Crawford Jolly <https://unsplash.com/@crawford>
Daiga Ellaby https://unsplash.com/@daiga_ellaby
Dave Hoefler <https://unsplash.com/@iamthedave>
Dean Bennett <https://unsplash.com/@deanbennett>
Denny Mülle <https://unsplash.com/@redaquamedia>
Denys Nevozhai <https://unsplash.com/@dnevozhai>

Derick McKinney <https://unsplash.com/@derickray>
Dom Fou <https://unsplash.com/@domlafou>
Francesco Gallarotti <https://unsplash.com/@gallarotti>
Gary Bendig https://unsplash.com/@kris_ricepees
Gayatri Malhotra <https://unsplash.com/@gmalhotra>
Girl with red hat <https://unsplash.com/@girlwithredhat>
Hennie Stander <https://unsplash.com/@henniestander>
Igor Rodrigues <https://unsplash.com/@igorrodrigues>
Jan Kopřiva <https://unsplash.com/@jxk>
Jerry Wang https://unsplash.com/@jerry_318
Jeswin Thomas <https://unsplash.com/@jeswinthomas>
Jonah Brown <https://unsplash.com/@jonahbrown>
Joshua Hoehne https://unsplash.com/@joshua_hoehne
Joshua Woroniecki https://unsplash.com/@joshua_j_woroniecki
Julia Joppien https://unsplash.com/@shots_of_aspartame
Kelly Teller <https://unsplash.com/@csol1u>
Lucas Ludwig <https://unsplash.com/@luddyphoto>
Luis Villasmil <https://unsplash.com/@villxsmil>
Madison Oren <https://unsplash.com/@artbyhybrid>
Maria Bobrova <https://unsplash.com/@yamiable>
Meggy Pomerleau <https://unsplash.com/@yungserif>
Nathalia Segato <https://unsplash.com/@trintaycinco>
Nick Fewings <https://unsplash.com/@jannerboy62>
Nicolas Lindsay https://unsplash.com/@thirty_5ive_mm
Omar Lopez <https://unsplash.com/@omarlopez1>
Paulius Dragunas <https://unsplash.com/@paulius005>
Randy Fath <https://unsplash.com/@randyfath>
ROCCO STOPPOLONI <https://unsplash.com/@sstoppo>
Sebastian Graser <https://unsplash.com/@sebastiangraserphotography>
Sladjana Karvounis <https://unsplash.com/@slakarvounis>
Taylor Heery <https://unsplash.com/@taylorheeryphoto>
Tembinkosi Sikupela <https://unsplash.com/@lexhosaguy>
The Tampa Bay Estuary Program <https://unsplash.com/@tbep>
Zdeněk Macháček <https://unsplash.com/@zmachacek>



This material is based upon work supported by NASA under cooperative agreement award number 80NSSC21M0007. Any opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).