

HPL Newsletter November 2020



Introduction

This is the second HPL (High Performance Learning) newsletter for this term. Here is the newsletter with further ACPs (Advanced Cognitive Performance Characteristics) and VAAs (Values, Attitudes and Attributes) for you, plus some practical ideas to try at home over the winter break.

We can Grow our Intelligence: According to a key breakthrough in our knowledge of the brain in this century, our brain structure and function is not fixed and unchangeable, and not the same irrespective of context or culture. It is, in fact, exquisitely plastic, mouldable by experience throughout our lives. It is also permeable, responding to social attitudes and expectation, as is shown by brain-imaging studies. (Wraga et al 2006; quoted D. Eyre@HPL)



ACP – Creating Curtis – Intellectual Playfulness

This is 'the ability to recognise rules and bend them to create valid but new forms.'

Encourage your child to practice intellectual playfulness.

For example, during this pandemic we are mostly at home with family members. You can play a game which practices the ACP of Intellectual Playfulness:

The Art Challenge:

Each member of the family must draw a self-portrait using only a pen/pencil and paper.

The Film Challenge:

Each member of the family chooses a film that you watch together. Give it a mark out of 10 and justify your decision.



VAA – Empathetic Edgar - Collaborative

This is 'the ability to seek out opportunities to receive responses to your work; present your own views and ideas clearly and concisely; listen to the views of others; be willing and able to work in teams; take a variety of roles and be able to evaluate your own ideas and contributions.'

As children follow what we do rather than only what we say, this game involves practicing empathy:

The Kindness Challenge:

Each member of the family has to do something kind for the rest of the family.

The Learning Challenge:

Each member of the family has to teach everyone in the family something new.

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Big Question

'If you were a teacher and could teach your students anything at all, what would you teach them?'

'What if you could travel into the future?'

Inspiration

'The best students are not 'test passers' but well-rounded individuals ready to thrive in life.' Professor Deborah Eyre

