

Thought Museum

Playful Learning Activity Card



Purpose

- ▶ To invite reflection and thoughtful conversation about key ideas from a text
- ▶ To encourage equitable participation from all members of the class

Process

- ▶ Choose a text(s) you would like to focus on for this activity. The texts might be articles, book chapters, student work, a transcript of a prior class conversation, etc. You can focus on one text or multiple texts about the same topic
- ▶ Select 4-7 quotes/excerpts from the text(s) that you would like to have students discuss and respond to. Write or type each quote on a separate sheet of paper. Use a large font, so the quotes are easily visible
- ▶ Hang the quotes around the room. Or, if teaching virtually, use a shared document or space like Jamboard or Padlet to post the quote
- ▶ If in-person, give each student 3-4 post-it notes
- ▶ For about 10 minutes, students move around the room (or peruse the digital site), reading the quotes and responding on post-its or using a comment feature
- ▶ Comments can be **ideas, connections, or questions** to the quote or to another student's comment. This exercise creates a written "conversation" between the text and each other
- ▶ After students have had time to read and post comments, invite them to move toward or digitally mark one of the quotes they especially want to discuss. Each small group (gathered by one of the quotes) reads the "museum exhibit" that has formed there, all of the comments about that topic, and has a conversation about what they **notice, think, and wonder**
- ▶ If you are teaching virtually, breakout rooms can be used for this step
- ▶ Once the small groups are done discussing (about 10 min), gather the whole class back together for a debrief: What new ideas have surfaced? Are there any new questions? Are there any connections?