

Grow Waitaha

Authentic learning

A conversation starter: Conversation script (Guide only)

#growrealllearning

Grow
Waitaha



Use this resource
in conjunction with
the **Grow Waitaha**
#growreallearning
- Facilitation guide.

Use the script as a
guide only.

Today we're going to explore what you think about learning. I'm going to ask you to do some thinking in your head and to share your thinking with others. There are no right or wrong answers to these questions, we're just really interested to hear your views and ideas.

+ What do you think learning is? Have a think about this on your own at this stage.

Organise students into groups of 3–4.

I'm going to give you a set of images and some headings. I'd like you to have a chat with your group and sort your pictures under the headings.

- + Which ones do you think show learning?
- + Which ones are not learning?
- + Which ones might be learning?

As students work on this activity, listen to the discussion and make notes of any interesting points. Prompts during this time might include:

- + Talk to me about why you made these choices.
- + Tell me about what learning you can see in the pictures under learning.
- + Tell me why you think this picture does not show learning.
- + Why have you put this picture in the might be learning category?
- + If you could ask someone in the picture a question, what would it be?

Invite the group to choose one picture from each category to share with the whole group. Students hold up their picture and say which category they placed it under and why. Look for any commonalities with the pictures.

- + Did others make the same choice? Why or why not?
- + Does everyone agree?

Let's think back to the questions I asked you at the start of this session

- + Would anyone like to share their ideas about what learning is?
- + What about learning?

Now I'm going to ask you some more questions and I'd like you to think about them on your own. Then you'll have a chance to share.

- + Is learning fun?
- + Is learning hard?
- + Is play learning? Why or why not?
- + If there was no school, would you still learn? What would that look like?

Give students opportunities to share their thinking, in their small group and with the larger group. Note down interesting discussion points.

- + Who decides what we learn at school? How / Why?
- + What input do you have as a student?



From the curriculum cards, share the key competencies cards and give a brief explanation about what they are and how they are part of The New Zealand Curriculum. Organise students into groups of 2–3.

- + Think about what key competencies are most important to you.
- + Order them from what you think is the MOST important to the LEAST important.

Give students time to order their key competencies. Share back the top and bottom choices with the whole group. Record this information. From the curriculum cards, share the learning area cards and give a brief explanation about what they are and how they are part of The New Zealand Curriculum. Organise students into groups of 2–3.

- + Think about what learning areas prepare you for a successful future.
- + Order the learning area cards from what you think is the MOST important learning area for your future to the LEAST important.

Give students time to order the learning area cards. Prompts during this time might include:

- + Which learning area(s) is/are the most interesting to you? How does this compare to your order of importance?
- + Which learning area(s) do you think your teacher thinks is most important? How do you know?
- + Which learning area(s) do you think your parents/whānau/ caregivers think is most important? Why?
- + Is there anything that you think is missing from our curriculum?
- + What else could be included?
- + Where could your ideas fit?

Hand out blank cards for student responses. Give students the opportunity to share their ideas back with the group. Come back to the image activity.

Would you change any pictures based on our discussions?
I'm going to ask you to have another look at your images and this time there can't be any under the "might be learning" heading.

Give students the chance to make any changes. At the end of this activity, it is interesting to see who still has pictures in "not learning" and their reasons for this.

+What would you want your teachers to know about learning at school?
+What has this activity made you think about? wonder?

Follow up

Gather student responses to inform your next steps with this conversation.
Check out some of the ideas in the facilitation guide for follow up activities.
Share any feedback with other staff in the school.
Complete the Grow Waitaha #growrealllearning Google Form to share your students' thinking.

#growrealllearning

Grow Waitaha uses the #growrealllearning hash tag to celebrate authentic learning. Search for this hashtag on twitter, instagram, and facebook.

