

Culturally Relevant Making . . . During a Pandemic

Lesley STEAM Learning Lab
Lesley University
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LSTEAM

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What Do We Do?

- Design “maker” experiences for undergraduate & graduate preservice teachers
- Partner with schools to support their adoption and integration of “making” in education
- Community outreach STEAM events

Synthesizing Gay and Ladson-Billings

Culturally responsive teaching	Culturally relevant pedagogy	Culturally relevant education
Social and academic empowerment Multidimensionality	Academic achievement	Academic skills and concepts (AS&C)
Cultural validation Social, emotional, and political comprehensiveness	Cultural competence	Critical reflection (CR) Cultural competence (CC)
School and societal transformation Emancipation or liberation from oppressive educational practices and ideologies	Sociopolitical consciousness	Critique discourses of power (CDP)

Characteristics of Culturally Responsive Teaching

- Acknowledging the legitimacy of cultural heritages of different ethnic groups
- Building bridges of meaningfulness between home and school experiences
- Using a wide variety of instructional strategies
- Incorporating multicultural information, resources and materials in all subjects.

How to Tap in to **Background Knowledge**:

Ask students to bring what they know

Guided Inquiry

Include deliverables and scope of the project, including problems to solve, design constraints, materials, and tasks to accomplish.

Models and Demonstrations

Set the scene, especially through cultural modeling—scaffolding cultural knowledge to support discipline-specific learning—and showing students what could be done.

Allow for Meaning Making:

Give students

- Voice
- Collaborate
- Communicate



Technological Doodling & Thinkering

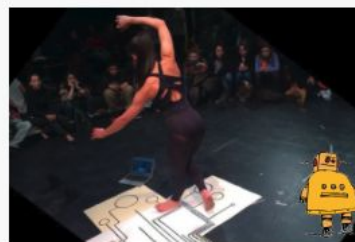
With materials, technologies, and tools to *build to think*, which enables students to break down project tasks into steps based on their level of knowledge.

Instructables

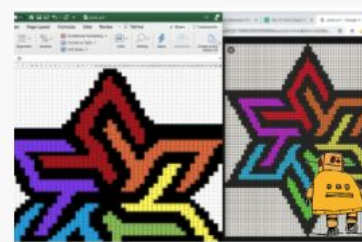
- A flexible structure that support student engagement and meaning making
- Conducive to synchronous and asynchronous learning
- Provides opportunities for multiple means for representation and expression



3D Quilt Codes & the Tinkercad Cypher



Embodying Chemistry: Paint an Interactive Dance Pad



Pixel Art Sonification



Quilt Making in Three Dimensions



Make "Joy" Using Google Drawings & Tinkercad



Wearable Sound Shields



Build a Makey Makey Drum Machine



Science Story Quilts



3D Tic-Tac-Toe Remixed

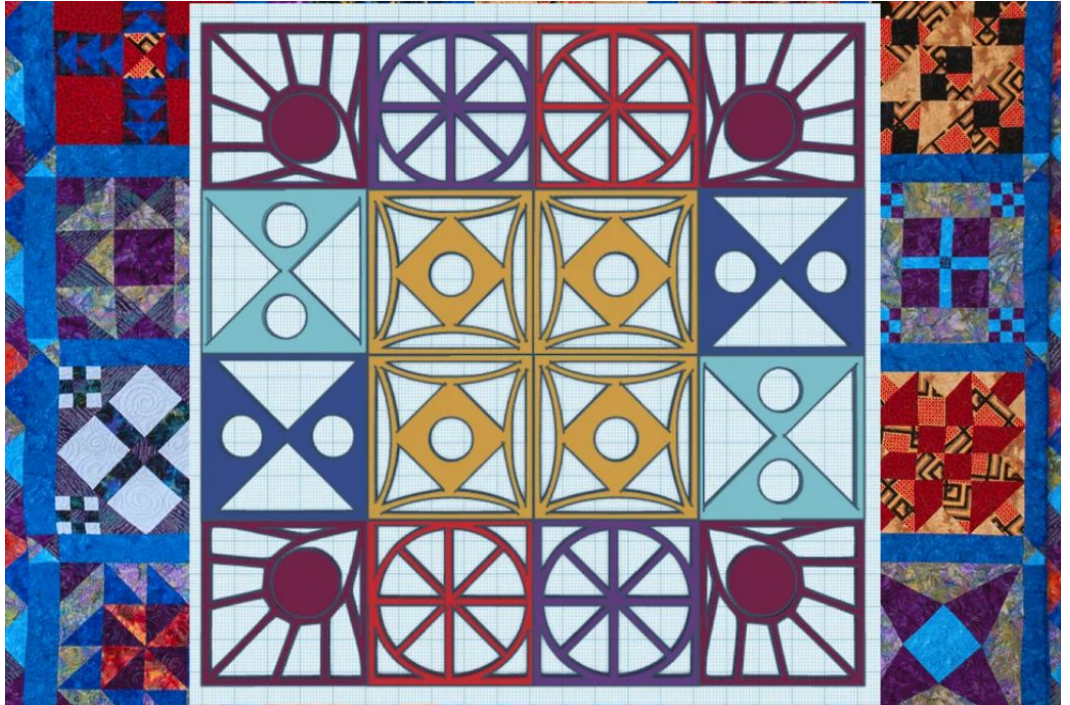
TinkerCAD

- Go to: Tinkercad
<https://www.tinkercad.com/>
- [Creating an account](#) (Youtube 0:40 - 0:55 minutes)
- [Overview of basic functions](#) (Youtube 1:15 - 7:40 minutes)
- [Importing and manipulating SVG files](#) (Youtube 1:40 - 1:45 minutes)



3D Quilt Codes & the Tinkercad Cypher

bit.ly/3dquilt



the cypher

The cypher is an important cultural practice, providing a structure for sharing knowledge and information only readily understood by those actively engaged in it.

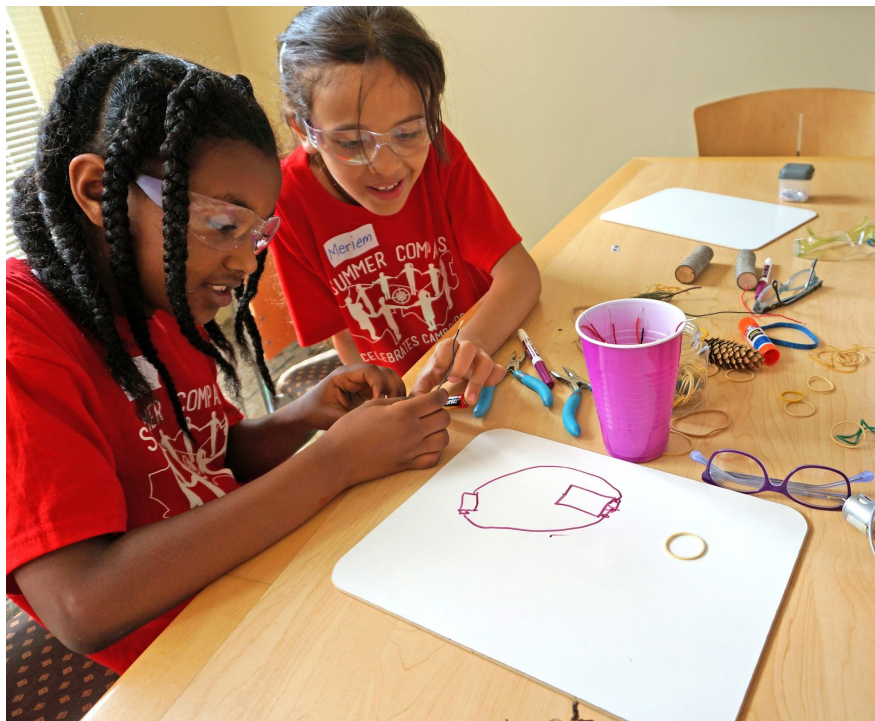
The cypher is a place for people to demonstrate and practice their skills, as well as a place to enact self-definition and theorize one's own existence in the presence of community.

Cyphers involve
call-and-response
participation.

Young people get
engaged in cyphers
of all types.



Breakout Groups - Tinkercad Cypher



LSTEAM Guidelines

Let's Play:

Learning as “Hard Fun”¹

Let's Think Out Loud:

Learning as Social

Let's Ask the Room:

Learning as a Network of Thinkers

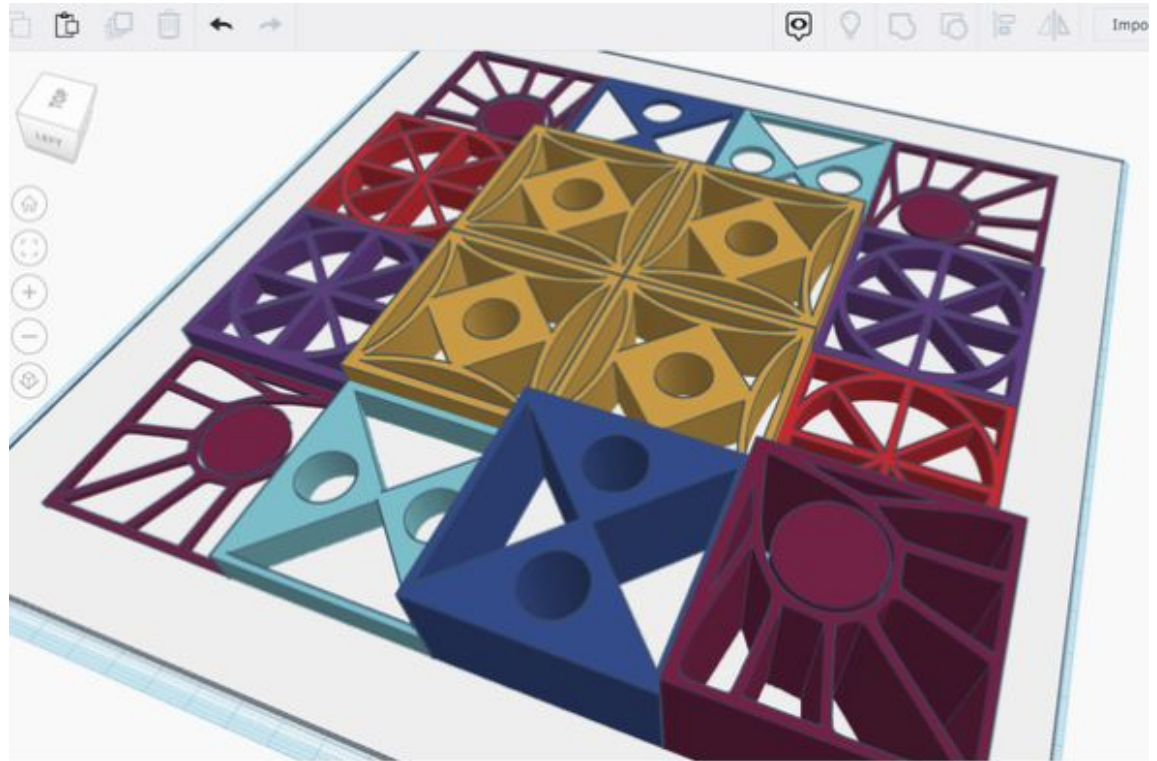
¹Seymour Papert

Share & Debrief

What did you notice?

New ideas for teaching?

Questions?



Resources

Instructional Resources

- [Lesley STEAM Learning Lab](#)
- [Lesley STEAM Interdisciplinary Instructables](#)
- [3D Quilt Codes & the Tinkercad Cypher](#)
- [Instructables for Teachers](#)
- [Questions to Ponder](#) - instructional tool that foster growth in critical thinking, perseverance, and self-directed learning
- [Techno-Vernacular Creativity and Innovation](#) by Nettrice Gaskins, in press - August, 2021

Tools

- [Create using Instructables](#)
- [Tinkercad](#)
- [Tinkercad keyboard shortcuts](#)
- [Inkscape](#), Google Draw