

Stories of Place: Exploring the Practice and Possibilities of Placemaking

A Moonshot Institute Weekend Workshop



www.TheLearningAlliance.org



Building Community: Story of a Place

Find a partner.

**Share the story of the place you put
on the cordel.**

Framing Question:

**What does it take to create literate,
compassionate, creative citizens
who improve our world?**

Qualities of a Moonshot Classroom

The classroom supports the social-emotional needs of the child. Learning happens collaboratively in an environment safe to take risks.

All students are engaged in a reading environment rich with multi-sensory experiences around complex texts.

Ongoing reflection, assessment and documentation makes deep learning and thinking visible, inspiring curiosity and creativity.

Qualities of a Moonshot Classroom

Language and curriculum in the classroom foster vigorous thinking and inquiry. Students demonstrate passion for content and a desire to continue learning.

The physical environment is aesthetically rich with meaningful print and visual texts, student work, and spaces for differentiated learning.

Qualities of a Moonshot Classroom

Learning is integrated and connected. Meaningful connections are made between students lives, content areas, and the larger community and world.

Curriculum supports the foundational literacy needs of the student which include reading, writing, and speaking, as well as connections through applied comprehension.

Qualities of a Moonshot Classroom

Learning is joyful.

Objectives

→ **Recognize...**

placemaking in the classroom and community

→ **Discover...**

the practice of knowing and seeing the possibilities of collective stories

→ **Provide...**

a safe space for collective stories to intersect and converge

Take Aways

To better
understand the
Practice of
Placemaking

To embrace the
importance of
Storytelling

To appreciate
the impact of
Classroom &
Community
Engagement

What is Placemaking?

“In creative placemaking, public, private, not-for-profit, and community sectors partner to strategically shape the physical and social character of a neighborhood, town, tribe, city, or region around arts and cultural activities.”

~ Ann Markusen and Anne Gadwa Nicodemus

**Do
these
public**



**spaces
feel
inviting?**



**Do these public spaces
feel inviting?**









What is practice?

**What
Is
Your
Practice?**

**How Can
Practice
Be
Cultivated?**

The Story of a Classroom

Postcards From America

Transformation
of a Classroom

The identification of students' core values served as a catalyst for engaging “newcomers”

- creating a haven for learning and cultural exchange

The Story of a School

Amend This!

**Transformation
of a School**

**An English teacher,
a music teacher,
and a theatre
company helped to
inspire learning,
build community,
and transform a
school**

The Story of a City

Sound Session

**Transformation
of Downtown
Providence, RI**

**Transforming
downtown into a
true public space
that was truly
reflective of all it's
citizenry**

**Talk about and share your
practice as teachers and
community leaders.**

**How do you prepare a room or space
for students and
community members?**

Amend This!

(Hip-Hop on Trial)

The Story of a School

Amend This! - The Transformation of a School(Placemaking)

- How an english teacher, music teacher and theatre company helped to inspire learning, build community and transform a school.



REFLECTION

Connect - Extend - Challenge

Moonshot Classrooms

lead to

Moonshot Communities

Interviews

Who are you? What do you do?

**Why do you do it? What are you
interested in doing/knowing in your
community?**

Engage/Connections

Postcards From America

Jenks Park Tower

Symbol of my city

Central Falls

I see the clock

I hear the children playing

I feel happy when I'm in the park.

I play soccer

I play football and

I swing on the swings with
my friends.

A good place for children to play,
a good place to have fun, and
a good place to chill with my friends.

-Postcards From America-



Songs in the Key of Our Lives

Providence Sound Session

**One
Nation
Under a
Groove**



An Exploration of Stories of Place

**Where
I'm
From**

**Where
I
Am**

**Where
I'm
Going**

Remixing the Future **a placemaking project**

Reflection: I/Q

Thank YOU!

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Re-imagine your classroom or community
as a theatre, blank canvas, or learning lab -
as a place for discovery filled with
possibilities for learning and exploration.

MOONSHOT CHALLENGE