EXPRESS-A-BOOK – PROTOCOL
Created in 2017 by Lindsay Pinchbeck, Jake Sturtevant, Argy Nestor
Express-a-Book was designed for teachers to use and adapt to use with learners of all ages.

GETTING STARTED

1. Find or be guided into a group of kindred spirits on times available

Recommended 2-5 people, but smaller groups may work better. Participants may represent different arts disciplines, grade levels, and/or content OR be interdisciplinary groups.

Would you like to find kindred spirits?

What are some interests or resources that you are currently exploring or would really like to explore?

Would you like to be a group by times?

What days and times would you be available to meet?

    2. Connect with your kindred spirits to discuss your initial ideas and direction of your group

INITIAL CONNECTION MEETING

    3. Decide the format of the group

Will you all read/view an article, book, video, or resource together?

Will you individually choose an article, book, video, or resource?

Will you each choose a section of a larger reading to do?

Give a short overview about your interest or resource that you plan to explore.

    4. Decide a meeting date and time

In Person or Zoom/or other digital platform

Recommended tool: Doodle Poll

CREATE

5. After reading / or absorbing your resources decide how you will express through creative experience.

What resonated with you and has you thinking?

Which art form(s) will you use to express your learning?

What medium will you select to communicate?

If you aren't sure begin doodling, moving, writing, talking whatever you need to do to get ideas flowing.

Consider doing several sketches, improvisations/ compositions or playing freely before settling on a final idea.

7. Create an artistic response that can be shared with others

THE SHARING MEETING

In Person or Zoom/or other digital platform (Argy can set up a Zoom meeting if you don't have access)

8. Introductions & overview of the discussion (if applicable)

9. Each individual presents: (Suggested format)

• Artistic representation of reading/video/resource

• DON'T TALK TOO MUCH- It is suggested not to give a lot of insight into the

reading/resource itself, but allow time for others to experience what you have

created.

• Responses from others

• Feedback, Insight, and Reflection
• "I Wonder, I Notice, What if, Talk to, My question is."

• Artist statement & discussion:

Insight into process & product

• Answer some questions in the responses from others
• Discuss concepts presented further

WRAP UP & TAKE AWAYS

What are our take aways? One or two sentences. Personal response to experience.

OUR INITIAL WORK

Lindsay's take away:

I enjoyed learning through the arts, playing with ideas and having a small group of trusted colleagues to engage in rich dialogue. I was motivated to keep working on my painting and poem and excited, if a bit nervous, to share but had great feedback which motivated me to keep working, learning and thinking more deeply about my initial ideas in the article and my art work.

Argy's take away:

I loved being challenged to stretch myself and because of that I learned so much more and differently than I do in a traditional book club. I have so much respect for both Jake and Lindsay, it was great to have the chance to collaborate with them to develop and go through the process with a new idea. I was so encouraged and inspired by Lindsay and Jake's creations! The Express-a-Book process brought everyone's learning to a different place.

Jake's take away:

It was wonderful to have the opportunity and excuse to jump in the sandbox and find ways to play with, highlight, reflect, and communicate my learning in a unique way. I also loved the rich dialogue that this sort of sharing and reflecting has to offer. When I get to see how others interpreted my own own explorations of learning and how I interpret their learning expressions, it is amazing to see how this can clarify my own vision of what I learned and what I am learning.

Jake's MP3:

https://soundcloud.com/sturtwars/boredom-remix