

**'Hunger is the best sauce': encouraging engagement through curiosity, metaphor and serious play**

While the allusions to 'links' between teaching and research in much recent pedagogical literature suggest a separation between these two activities, an alternative view might prefer to describe them as shifting perspectives on a continuous learning process. What is often missing in these discussions is a sense of what drives all learning, whether seen in teaching or research modes : a passionate curiosity, a regard for open-ended exploration and willingness to engage in serious play. Drawing on a range of theoretical perspectives, including recent work on metaphor and imagination, views of 'children as researchers', and arguments for the value of 'unintended learning outcomes', this paper/session will consider the history of these concepts and practical strategies for sharpening student (and tutor) engagement .

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