**Trying Something New (In Class Challenge)**

Being open to new ideas and new perspectives is a key component to the English First Peoples Curriculum. Begin responsible for your own learning is also a key element of your education. This is a 3 day in-class mini project. Day One (today) you will research and plan what new thing you want to learn. Day 2 (tomorrow) you will have the opportunity to work on the activity. Day 3 you will present a few highlights (with a picture or video) of what you tried.

**Key Goals:**

1. Independent motivation
2. Independent organization and time management
3. Continued development of self-awareness (what are your interests, strengths and weaknesses

**Overall Expectations for this assignment**

1. You will write a short paragraph about why you want to try this new thing (why it interests you
2. You will research what you will need to learn this new concept, skill etc.
3. You will work on this skill, try the idea etc. tomorrow
4. You will document the process (video/photos)
5. You will write and reflect on your experiences (successes/failures)
6. You will share your experience with the rest of the class

**Potential ideas:**

-Learn a new skill (language, dance move, sports skill, food to cook, song to play, art skill)

-Experience something different (new genre of film, music etc)

-Create something (A video game, original song, story, video)

-Start building something (Go-cart, a….)

-Organize something (A rally, fundraiser, bulletin board to share information)

-Start something: Begin a larger challenge that will take longer than just one class to complete (the first step is often the hardest)

***You may work with a partner. Both partners are responsible for writing up the experience. You may document and present together.***

**Trying Something New (Final Write-Up)**

Outline:

The purpose of the second reflection is to organize the information about what you have learned and document it using words and pictures in a way that clearly explains what you have done. You also want to use powerful language and description to engage your reader and help them connect to your personal interest in your project. You want to make the experience as real as possible for your audience.

Please answer the following questions in ***paragraph form:***

1. What did you try?
2. Why did you try it? (short explanation because you have already done this in your first reflection)
3. What were the main steps in the process? (with visual examples)
4. What were the biggest things you struggled with during the process?
5. How did you overcome obstacles?
6. What are the benefits of things that go wrong when you are trying something new?
7. What was your favourite part about yesterday’s class?

The last questions are about who you are as a learner. You can answer these in a separate paragraph.

1. Did you honestly attempt to come up with something that was challenging or interesting yesterday, or did you take the easiest road possible?
2. Are you *self-directed?* Do you have to be told exactly what to do all the time, or are you able to challenge yourself and take responsibility?
3. Are you a problem solver? Do you quit as soon as something becomes challenging, or do you find different ways to achieve your goals?
4. If you finished early, did you wander around with nothing to do or did you try to make use of your time?
5. If an employer had observed you during class yesterday, would they have wanted to hire you? Why or why not?