

Assignment 8: Brainstorming More Ideas for Carnival Activities

(due by Friday, Feb. 11)

This assignment should be done in small groups of three to five students. This assignment may be done individually, although it is not recommended. This assignment may be done in groups larger than five students, although it may be difficult due to the larger number of schedules to coordinate.

Have several members of your group visit Tony Osumi's favorite store: 99 Cent Store. You can also visit equivalent stores, such as Marukai 98 Cent Store in Gardena, stores in Chinatown selling trinkets, etc. Browse the store to gather ideas for possible carnival activities that your group can create (e.g., arts and crafts, games, jewelry, etc.) that are simple and inexpensive. You don't have to buy anything, although it may be helpful to buy a few items to help you develop a prototype for your activity. Remember, though, to follow the inspiration of Tony who showed us that good teaching is not based on expensive and elaborate teaching materials but on imagination and creativity to use simple and inexpensive materials.

Based on a group discussion, create a carnival activity specifically for children (ages 5 to 10) but that can also be enjoyed by people of all age groups. Write up a description of this activity and be prepared to present the idea in our class. For your activity, incorporate at least two of the following three themes:

1. For children (and other age groups): the importance of teamwork and working together.
2. For children (and other age groups): the importance of respecting and helping others.
3. For children (and other age groups): the importance of not making fun of others.

For the carnival activity that your group creates, make sure that it fits the following guidelines:

1. Like the activities of Tony, it is relatively simple to set up and relatively inexpensive. It does not require elaborate equipment, extensive set-up time, or a lot of money.
2. The activity is interactive and does not depend on having people listen to a lecture or presentation, do extensive reading, or only watch or listen to media.
3. Although designed for children, the activity can be easily adapted to a range of populations, such as people from different age groups, people from different language groups, people from different ethnic groups, and people with different levels of skills and expertise.