

EVALUATION TOOL 16:	LEGO		
OVERVIEW:	<p>LEGO is a great creative tool – let’s face it, we all remember playing with the stuff! Admittedly your group will need to be in the right place to see it playfully, rather than feeling patronised, but once they are open to play, it is a fantastic way to get them to reconnect to the child inside themselves.</p> <p>We used LEGO recently as a research tool to explore our professional identities as researchers following the work. It proved to be a very enjoyable and revealing tool.</p> <p>The theory is that by engaging the creative side of the brain in the use of metaphor, a deeper level of meaning is accessed than just by asking a question and accessing the cognitive and easily downloadable memories. Creating an artefact also commits you to a certain extent, so young people are less likely to ‘say what the person before them said’. The process of thinking about the question, making, reflecting on what you made and describing what you made and why also adds layers of reflection, deepening the experiential learning.</p>		
WHAT YOU WILL NEED:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of LEGO (• Music • Camera/flip chart • Of course, any construction material can be used: junk modelling, collage, natural materials, Duplo etc. 	PREPARATION:	None
PROCESS:	<p>Step 1: Get the group in a ‘playful’ state, or open to play anyway.</p> <p>Step 2: Allow them to play with the LEGO.</p> <p>Step 3: Try some challenges, make a house/tree/boat/your name.</p> <p>Step 4: Ask them to reflect on their time with you and to create a model that represents X (them, their learning, their experience, their dreams, etc.)</p> <p>Step 5: Give them a time boundary and have something for people to do who finish early.</p> <p>Step 6: Play some music</p> <p>Step 7: Once all done, ask them to show their model and explain what it represents and why, and what it was like making it, did they learn anything through the process.</p> <p>Step 8: Photograph the models and write down what they say.</p>		
ANALYSIS:	Analysis of LEGO is really dependent on the narrative. We would draw out the key points from what all the participants say about their LEGO models, and summarise those key statements.		
PHOTOS:			
STRENGTHS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creative • Fun 	WEAKNESSES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hard to analyse • Needs explaining