





Education, Games and Creativities

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Finnish Institute for Educational Research

Innovative Learning
Environments Research Group



Innovative

Finnish Institute For Educational Research



Environments

LE is a research and education group that focuses on the advancement of children's and young people's 21st Century Skills. The field includes especially user-driven design and study of learning technologies and spaces for enhancement of learning and wellbeing, analyses of innovative teaching and learning practices, technology-enhanced learning, and evaluation and comparison of ICT use in education. When applicable, the research can also be directed to other phases of human life for the study of citizen's knowledge society capabilities.

Team members





Maria Kankaanrant: Kati Clements



Kristof Fenyvesi



Tiina Mäkelä







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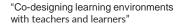






Ministry of Education and Culture

"Assessment of transversal skills in formal and informal learning environments"





Digiloping Teachers: Digital competences development and mentoring for teachers









Matias Mäki-Kuutti

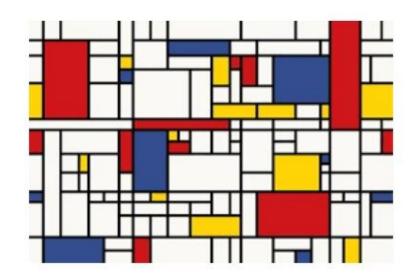




Mondrian Art Puzzles



Piet Mondrian was a Dutch painter who is now considered one of the great artists of the 20th century [1]. Among his other works, some of Mondrian's art had a unique, geometric style that (no surprise) attracted the eyes and minds of mathematicians. His art looked a little something like this:

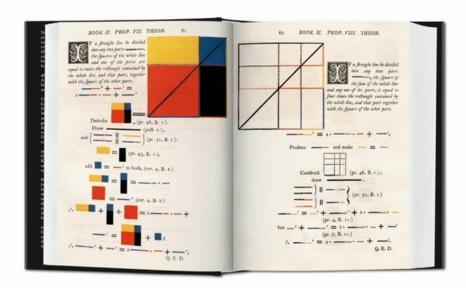




From the clashing of two worlds, math and art, the "Mondrian art puzzle" was born: a fun, creative, and colorful math activity built for almost any age!

Art & Mathematics

Merging art with mathematics was a natural process for Piet Mondrian to visualize the essential, pure beauty and balance.



Oliver Byrne's 1847 edition of Euclid's Elements

Mondrian: Composition with Red Blue and Yellow

Art & Mathematics

Mondrian's artistic evolution from figural painting to geometrical imagery was a spiritual journey and an intellectual effort.

The goal was to discover the structure beneath the surface and to highlight the profoundly significant.



Evolution



The Large Nude



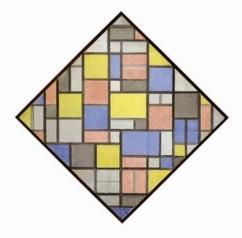
Pier and Ocean

Art & Mathematics

Mondrian's systematically implemented grids and the "primary colors" - red, blue, yellow, and white - express the "universal forces" of his vision of art and reality.



Composition 1916

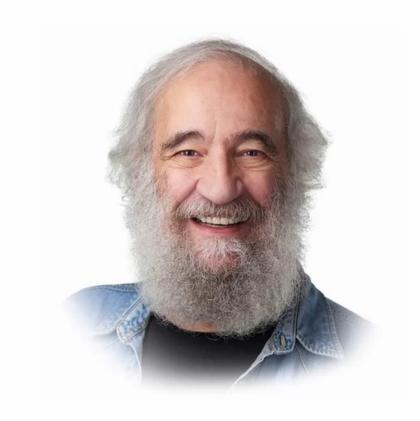


Composition with Grid 6



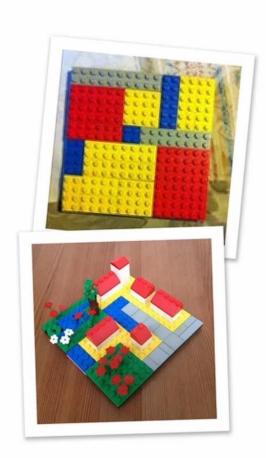
The original idea of Mondrian Blocks is created by **Prof. Dr. Laszlo Mero**.

He is a Professor of Math, a Professor of Psychology, a research psychologist, and popular science author.



The idea came up when an escape room needed a puzzle.

The first prototype is made of Lego blocks.



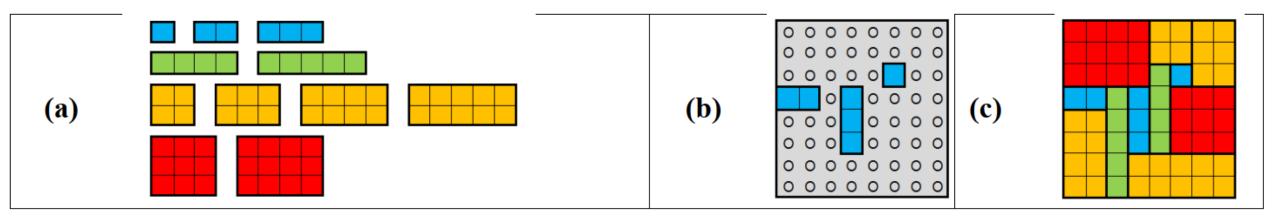
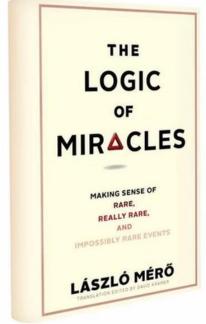


Figure 1a, b, c: Mérő's idea came up when he was requested to create a logic puzzle for an escape room. (a) The origin of the idea is the recognition: the sum of the squares is exactly 64, which can be fitted in a 8x8 square. (b) A puzzle: the blue modules cannot be moved and all the rest of the modules need to be fitted on the board without gaps and overlapping. (c) A solution. Conclusion: there are a surprisingly large number of puzzles possible.

At first the game became an appendix of a book.

The Eightfold path: Developing intellectual flexibility.





The result of the development



Imre Kökényesi Product developer and game designer













Best Education & Games
2020 Buyer's Choice Award

The result of the development

Four editions, each with 88 different challenges inside.













Best Education & Games 2020 Buyer's Choice Award

Mondrian Blocks' connection to cognitive skills.

The following cognitive skills are help to improve the ability of learning math:

Instinct knowledge of numbers, dimensions, areas

Flexible thinking, changing the point of view

Reasoning

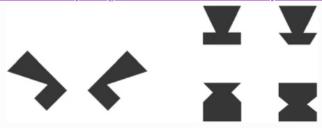
Critical thinking

Perceptual organization

Working memory

Processing speed

From: The role of 2D and 3D mental rotation in mathematics for young children: what is it? Why does it matter? And what can we do about it?



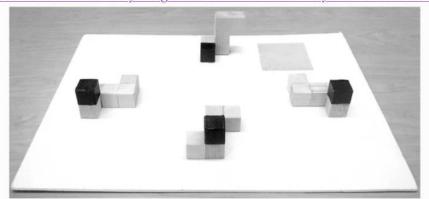
When we mentally rotate the *two shapes on the left* so that they are joined at a centre y axis, which figure do they make (of the *four on the right*)? (From Levine CMTT, et al., 1999); see also the classic test of Shepard & Metzler, 1971

From: The role of 2D and 3D mental rotation in mathematics for young children: what is it? Why does it matter? And what can we do about it?



When asking children to think about the area of these two squares, students describe mentally rotating the left square to match the square on the right as a proof that the area of the two squares are the same

From: The role of 2D and 3D mental rotation in mathematics for young children: what is it? Why does it matter? And what can we do about it?



In this 3D mental rotation blocks task (3DMRBT: Hawes, LeFevre, Chang & Bruce, 2014), the participant must identify which of the three figures at the front exactly matches with the figure at the back once rotated

"The ability to mentally rotate objects in space has been singled out by cognitive scientists as a central metric of spatial reasoning (see Jansen, Schmelter, Quaiser-Pohl, Neuburger, & Heil, 2013; Shepard & Metzler, 1971 for example). However, this is a particularly undeveloped area of current mathematics curricula..."

Bruce, C.D., Hawes, Z. The role of 2D and 3D mental rotation in mathematics for young children: what is it? Why does it matter? And what can we do about it?. *ZDM Mathematics Education* **47**, 331–343 (2015). https://doi.org/10.1007/s11858-014-

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vents

Exhibits

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Mondrian 150! Mondrian Day at MoMath

Saturday, February 19 10:00 am - 5:00 pm ET (New York)



Visit

Events

Exhibits

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Friday, February 18 at 6:30 pm ET (New York)

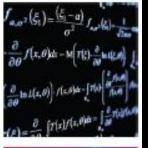


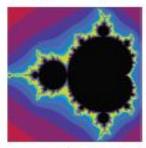
Cognitive Games

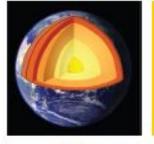












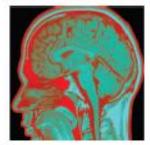




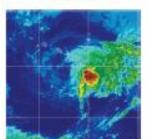




MATHEMATICS IS EVERYWHERE















Kristóf Fenyvesi and Tuuli Lähdesmäki (Editors)

Aesthetics of Interdisciplinarity: Art and Mathematics

This anthology fosters an interdisciplinary dialogue between the mathematical and artistic approaches in the field where mathematical and artistic thinking and practice merge. The articles included highlight the most significant current ideas and phenomena, providing a multifaceted and extensive snapshot of the field and indicating how interdisciplinary approaches are applied in the research of various cultural and artistic phenomena. The discussions are related, for example, to the fields of aesthetics, anthropology, art history, art theory, artistic practice, cultural studies, ethno-mathematics, geometry, mathematics, new physics, philosophy, physics, study of visual illusions, and symmetry studies. Further, the book introduces a new concept: the interdisciplinary aesthetics of mathematical art, which the editors use to explain the manifold nature of the aesthetic principles intertwined in these discussions.





Aesthetics of Interdisciplinarity: Art and Mathematics

Aesthetics of Interdisciplinarity: Art and Mathematics



▶ birkhauser-science.com





Mathematics and Art Connections Expressed in Artworks by South African Students

Kristóf Fenyvesi (Researcher of STEAM Education, University of Jyväskylä,

Christopher Brownell (Associate Professor, Mathematics and STEM Education, Program Director, Mathematics Education, Fresno Pacific University, USA, chris.brownell@fresno.edu)

Pamela Burnard (Professor of Arts, Creativities and Educations, University of Cambridge,

Pallawi Sinha (Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Cambridge, ps527@cam.ac.uk)

Werner Olivier (Professor of Mathematics, Nelson Mandela University,

Catherina Steyn (Researcher of Mathematics Education, Nelson Mandela University,

Zsolt Lavicza (Professor of STEM Education Research Methods, Johannes Kepler University, Linz,

Shyam Wuppuluri Dali Wu (Eds.)

ON ART AND SCIENCE

Tango of an Eternally Inseparable Duo

With an Afterword by Sir Martin Rees

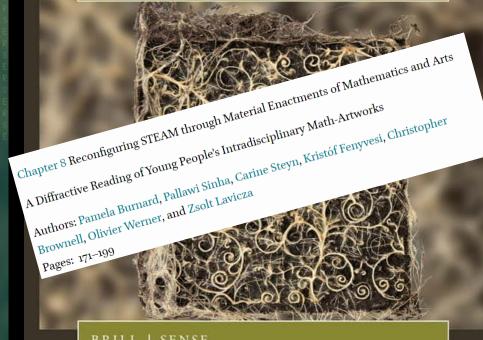


RITICAL ISSUES IN THE FUTURE OF LEARNING AND TEACHING

Why Science and Art **Creativities Matter**

(Re-)Configuring STEAM for Future-Making Education

Pamela Burnard and Laura Colucci-Gray (Eds.)



BRILL | SENSE

SCIENCE







EDUCATION, COMMUNITY, **DESIGN-LED** INNOVATION





(Re-)Configuring STEAM for Future-Making Education

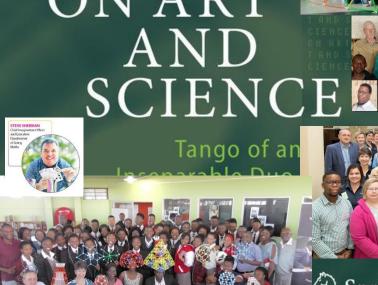
Pamela Burnard and Laura Colucci-Gray (Eds.)













This book is intended for all persons working with children aged 0-7 years who do the vital work, for instance, in Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) centres, kindergartens, nurseries and schools in all parts of the world. This book is also an excellent tool for training ECEC teachers.

The book contains over 100 practical and playful activities for children under seven years of age. It will give you concrete examples and ideas for how to implement activities with children in order for them to learn through play. The chapters of the book are based on the Finnish pedagogical practices, scientific research, and development projects of ECEC and is also based on the Finnish National Core Curriculum for ECEC.

We writers hope this book will inspire you in your work with children and promote their lifelong learning. We hope the children will receive beneficial learning experiences through the playful activities we've described - and that you, the reader, will experience happiness working and playing with the children.

PLAYFUL LEARNING in Early Childhood Education in Finland elevates the pedagogical significance of play in learning, as well as children's holistic growth and well-being. This book encourages versatile and functional working methods that promote children's creativity, interaction and participation. Our main task is to help you provide good childhood experiences and consequently a promising future for all children.

Pia Kola-Torvinen, Counsellor of Education, Finnish National Agency for Education

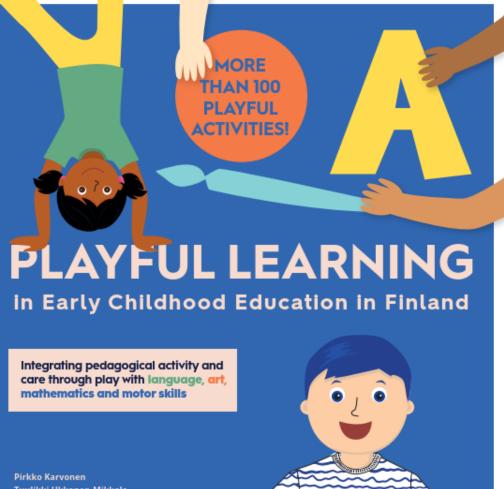
PLAYFUL LEARNING in Early Childhood

Education in Finland is a book that gets right to activities that are useful for children. Behind the planned playful activities are education professionals who have proved the effectiveness of these activities based on specific theories and research. The book is useful in daycare centres and is needed in teacher education. It can also be an excellent guide for parents in home education. The book guides children to participate and experience joy together. The book itself plays a valuable part in developing children's culture.

Ulla Härkönen, professor emerita at the University of Eastern Finland

AYFUL **LEARNING** in Early Childho å ш 은 9 3. П inlan





Tuulikki Ukkonen-Mikkola Kristof Fenyvesi Milla Salonen Päivi Erkkilä Elina Laine Susan Hellden-Paavola Laura Taittonen







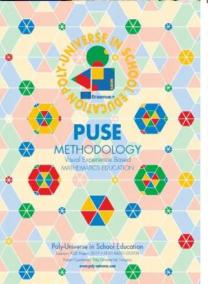




WORKSHOP 1: SHAPES AND COLORS







The Polyuniverse offers a new perspective for mathematics and art education. Mind-bending combinations made of 24 pieces each of the 3 basic shapes: the triangle, the circle and the square.



WORKSHOP 2: STRUCTURE





Make a geometrical magic carpet, tapestry or decoration inspired by various patterns, including visual illusions!

Determine the colours, think about the pattern, count, and create.







WORKSHOP 3: LOGIC

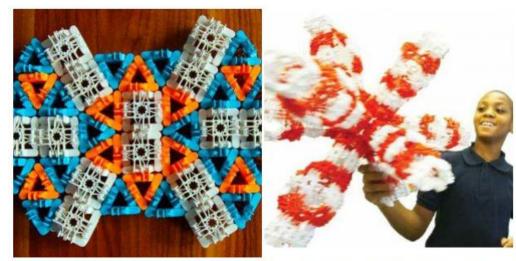


MONDRIAN BLOCKS are offering cognitive challenges at the conjunction of art and mathematics. Let the flow take your mind to the next level!





WORKSHOP 4: LINKS & FLEXIBILITY



Called the "next level LEGO" by the New York Magazine, LUX is a revolution in construction. Modeled after nature at the molecular level, LUX connects through linking, instead of sticking or stacking, and therefore gives the immediate experience of the world of kinematics. Now this wonderful moving aspect of our universe can be accessed in playing and learning experience!



WORKSHOP 5: MODULARITY



The Design Award Winner Logifaces is the ANALOGUE GAME FOR DIGITAL MINDS. LOGIFACES lets you train your mind, boost your creativity and challenge yourself and your friends.



