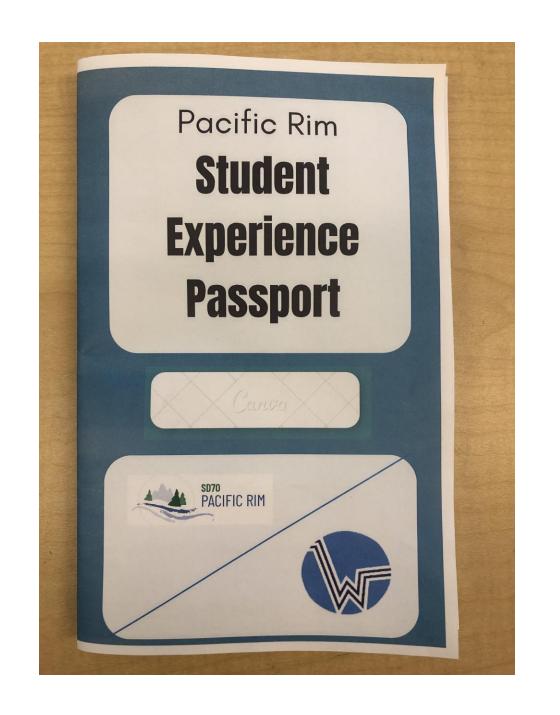
"8 in 8" Student Passport

8 Experiences in 8 Years

By providing community and life experiences that also involve student input/choice, can we increase students' sense of belonging and feeling more part of their school community?

Project by Kristine Clark, with input from Jayne Chase and Erin Venn, Wood Elementary School.

The Passport



What is the NOIIE?

- From noiie.ca
- The Networks of Inquiry and Indigenous Education (NOIIE) is a voluntary network of inquiry-based schools and school districts in British Columbia, with partner networks around the world. Using an inquiry-oriented, evidence-based approach to learning and teaching through the Spiral of Inquiry, teams work towards improving outcomes for all learners in their settings and submit case studies to share their progress in a spirit of generosity, curiosity and growth.

Spiral of Inquiry

- As we try to answer three main questions:
 - What is going on for our learners?
 - How do we know?
 - Why does it matter?
- •We use the spiral of inquiry:
 - •Scan
 - Focus
 - Develop a hunch
 - •Learn
 - Take action
 - Check (and repeat)

Scan & Focus

- "borrowed" the idea from a friend in England
- Have always thought about the gaps in what kids experience in life; how does this affect their schema, vocabulary, ability to fit in with others?
- SEL is a school goal, so trying to "even the playing field" and give kids more commonalities "should" help with their sense of belonging.
- Asked some students and teachers what they thought of the idea and if it seemed worth pursuing, and got a resounding "Yes!"
- Tied in with focus group of Grade 3 & 6, as the counsellor was working on a sense of belonging project with them already.
- Start with our school, but the ultimate goal would be district wide.

Develop a hunch

- My guess was that every little (and big) thing we offer to kids at school makes a difference in their lives.
- Giving them similar experiences automatically gives them something to talk about, and helps them fit in with others who have done the same things.
- Every chance we get to show the world to our students, the more likely we are to show them what is out there, and what they could do and see and work at in their future lives.
- Opportunities to see and do things will increase general knowledge, and provide opportunities to connect with other students and staff, which in turn creates belonging.
- The more we can fill up our kids with knowledge, the better the chance they will be successful at school.

Learn

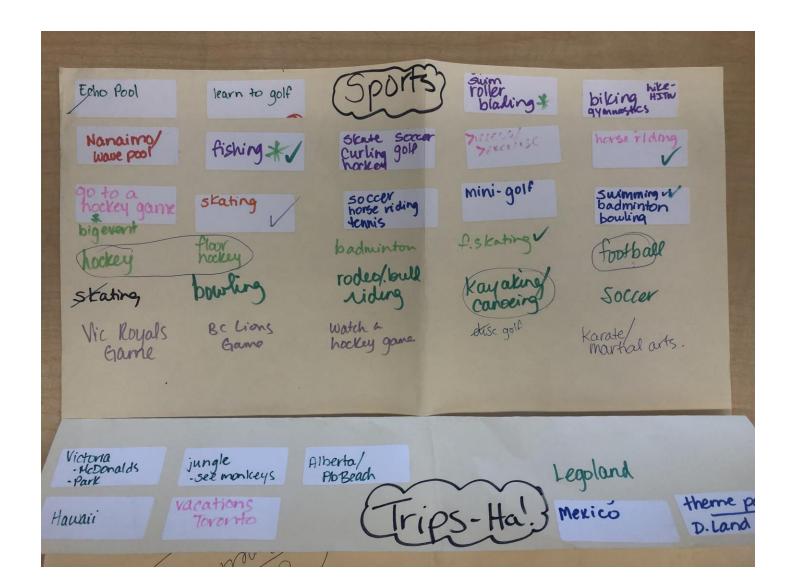
- I read "Design for Belonging" by Susie Wise
 - A practical, illustrated guide to using the tools of design to create feelings of inclusion, collaboration, and respect in groups of any type or size—a classroom, a work team, an international organization—from Stanford University's d. {design} school.
 - It was an easy, practical read that reminds you why to consider ALL your learners in your planning.

Talked to teachers and students to find out how they feel about belonging at school, how their life experiences affect them at school, and what parts of school they think help them the most. (Would like to find a good follow up to this next spring.)

Take Action

- Polled every class in the school: Colour-coded by grade to look for themes, as well as grouped into "categories" (sports, nature and events/places)
- Met with teachers and a select group of Grade 3 & 6 students to rank the experiences (ideas like the Wild Card came up here)
- Decided to go more generic with the experience list rather than specific to accommodate teacher preferences, new/rotating staff, and abilities or passion areas.
- Created booklet in Canva (Thanks, Sandra!) and bought gold-seal stickers (for completed experience pages).
- Will introduce to teachers and students in Sept/Oct.

The Process







Check & Repeat

- Next year:
 - Introduce the project
 - Start using and talking about the booklets and experiences
 - Have students do some reflecting on their experiences
 - Meet with the now gr 4 & 7s for feedback, talk to new gr 3 & 6s
 - Key questions: How/why are these experiences and field trips helping you?
 (in life, school/work, home, with friends?)
 - Make any tweaks or changes as required (follow the spiral process)

8 In 8 Student Passport

Copy of Kristine's NOIIE Project Passport.pdf

