

## Transferring

## Activity: Borrowing the Best Bits

An understanding that learning is about gleaning from others, taking what they do well, adapting it and applying it to our own practice.

Exercise the habit of imitation by recognising and repeating routines that are helpful.

Discuss the meaning of the word ‘ingredients’ – use exemplar material like recipes or the structure of a popular song or how to give a talk.

Draw out the fact that mere copying of ingredients doesn’t necessarily lead to success – recipes can go wrong, pop songs can be boring and repetitive if too formulaic, a good speech won’t work if it doesn’t respond to the audience.

Discuss things we can learn from each other , and things we have borrowed from each other.

Reveal things you have imitated in your work or wider life.

Show a video clip of someone doing something really well – a sports person, a stand-up comedian, a dancer, a chef ... ask the class to notice attentively and distil the main features that would be worth imitating if you were to learn from their habits.

Draw up a spider diagram to summarise the features.

Show a clip of a stand up comedian – e.g. Peter Kay – and ask the group to select the features of his performance that would be helpful to someone who is preparing to write a talk for an audience.

“What are the qualities of effective public speaking ... where else could we look to gather ideas that we could imitate and from which we could learn?”

Imitation isn't copying. As learning human beings, we borrow ideas and ways of doing things from others and make them our own.  
Move on to Transferring activities and the Learning Log.

A range of recipes or popular songs.  
Video clips of people doing something well.