

Interview Protocol: Youth Failure Mindset

Thanks again for agreeing to chat with me.

1. So, tell me a little bit about what you did. *[Get them talking about their process. Use the probes if they don't naturally answer these questions.]*
2. Once you got going, did you have a goal in mind? If so, what was it? If you didn't have a specific goal, what did you end up making?
3. Was there a time when you were trying to figure something out and it wasn't working like you wanted?
4. What did you do in that situation?
5. How did it feel to you when it didn't work out like you wanted it to?

This activity has a lot of making, creating, and designing involved. Making and designing things is a process of figuring out what works and what doesn't. Next, I'd like to ask you some questions about when things don't work out. People sometimes refer to that idea as failing or failure.

1. What comes to mind when you think about those words?
2. What do those words mean to you?
3. Can you give me an example of what failing can mean when you're at school?
4. Is there a difference between what failure is in school and what it's like here in [this activity/class/camp]?
5. Can you give me an example of what failing can mean in other parts of your life?
6. Can you tell me about a time when you experienced failure? It can be about anything.
7. Was there ever a time doing this activity where you experienced failure?
8. What if we used different words to talk about what happened in this activity, such as when things didn't work out, or meet your goals?
9. If you were to keep going, what do you think you'd do next?