



Foreign Language Virtual Learning

Clowning Around

May 20, 2020



6th Grade Foreign Cultures

Lesson: May 20, 2020

Objective/Learning Target:

I can analyze relationships and interactions within and between human and physical systems to explain reciprocal influences that occur among them.



Warm Up: What makes a good clown? Most of us have seen entertaining performers, and others that don't interact well with an audience. Think of a performance that made you smile, and one that made you cringe. Why did you have these reactions?

I remember a clown that was doing face painting but didn't have good management of the children as they lined up and waited. There wasn't any entertainment of the children as they waited so they got bored and misbehaved. At another party, the clown was really good interacting with the children and managed them well so that everyone enjoyed the performance.



Here are some additional videos of clowns performing. Explore the different acts to see what the performance says about clowns and how the audience interprets their performance.

[Cirque du soleil](#)

[Clowns with rola-bola](#)

[Pepe the Clown](#)



Let's continue our discussion on [Padlet](#). Share your answers to these questions:

1. What were some of the clown's actions in the film that could be viewed as "inappropriate behavior"? Would you have wanted to interact with a clown like the people in the film?
2. "The clown is the master of failure," says Reinhard. What do you think he means by this? What happens when a person embraces failure and doesn't strive for perfection?
3. Have you ever been asked to stop "clowning around"? What were you doing to prompt this demand?

Now we are going to think a little deeper and explore the role and character of clowns. Answer the prompt on this [form](#) about why so many societies, ancient and contemporary, have clowns.





Additional Resources

Mrs. Keane grew up watching the “Bozo the Clown” TV show. Here is a clip: [Bozo the Clown](#)

Denise Winterman, "[Shakespearean Fools: Their modern equivalents.](#)" *BBC News Magazine*, March 31, 2012.