

UNESCO Chair in Learning and Teaching Futures Literacy in the Anthropocene

Method mosaic

Title:	What if ...
Target audience:	Primary level, secondary level I and II, university and adult education
Time:	Approx. 1.5 hours
Objective:	Envisioning sustainable futures (GreenComp 4.3)
Topic:	Any topic possible
Materials:	Drawing material, flipchart or a virtual pinboard such as Miro

Brief Description:

‘What if ...’ is a question to the present: What if today's situation were different from what it is? What would this alternative present look like? And how would it develop in the future?

The teacher either selects a situation that corresponds to the current reality of the group's lives, or the group chooses a situation itself in the course of a brainstorming session followed by a vote. This can relate to the group's immediate living environment (e.g. What if lessons only took place online?) or a larger dimension (e.g. What if solar energy could be generated in an environmentally friendly way, stored and made available to everyone free of charge?)

In small groups, the learners play through various possibilities of such an alternative future and imagine future developments resulting from this. The results – recorded as a drawing of a future scenario or as a plan, e.g. on a whiteboard – are presented and discussed in plenary.

Citation Suggestion:

Sippl, Carmen (2024): What if ... In: Method mosaic of the UNESCO Chair in Learning and Teaching Futures Literacy in the Anthropocene, <https://www.ph-noe.ac.at/unesco-chair>