



## LEARNING ACTIVITY – Masterful Mistakes

### Topic

Growth Mindset

### Type of Activity (Virtual/In-person)

In-person

### Recommended Grade Level(s)

7-8

### Time Needed

30-40 min.

### Group Size

Small group to whole class

### Materials Needed

- Masterful Mistakes handout (attached)
- Paint, markers, scissors, paper, pen/pencil
- A couple drinks

### Social Emotional Skill(s) to Integrate

- Self-Awareness
- Self-Management
- Social Awareness
- Relationship Skills
- Responsible Decision-Making

### Space Needed (if in-person)

Office or classroom

### Description of Activity

Often, we throw something away because it was broken or ruined. This activity is designed to experience a creative way to look at complications and challenges we encounter in school and in our personal lives.

### Students will understand...

#### Enduring Understanding(s)

A growth or fixed mindset has a direct impact on how we face academic and life challenges.

### Students will be able to...

#### Skills acquired

Identify and reframe a fixed mindset into a growth mindset.

### Preparations

Make copies of the Masterful Mistakes handout (attached) and cut into slips of paper to give one to each student. Collect any art supplies and drinks that you would like to use for the activity.

### Instructions

1. Explain to students that we often throw something away because it was broken or ruined. This activity is designed to experience a creative way to look at complications and challenges we encounter in school and in our personal lives.
2. Hand out the slips of “Masterful Mistakes” and have students start creating theirs on a blank piece of paper.
3. Collect all of the “mistakes” and redistribute them so that each student gets a “mistake” that is new to them.
4. Give students time to create a masterpiece out of the “mistake” they were given using the various art supplies available.
5. Have students place their masterpieces on a long table or at their desks and allow students to do a gallery walk to check out all of the masterpieces.

Tags: #ms, #mindset, #in-person, #handout

Citations:

## Reflection Activity, Questions, Discussion Prompts

- What was the most difficult part about creating your masterpiece?
- What was the most creative work a peer made? Explain why you feel this way.
- What can you do in the future to remind yourself to look for a new purpose or outlook on a mistake?
- What resources do you have in your life that can help you “life hack”?

## Variations for this Activity

For continued and deeper discussion, separate students into small groups allowing them to brainstorm what resources and emotions (academic, self-advocacy, communication, pride, fear, etc.) can help and or hinder how we navigate mistakes, challenges, etc. in life.



## Masterful Mistakes

Tear	Paint Spill	Bend
Paint drip	Scrap paper	Ink or smudge
Beverage stain	Hole	Crumple