



# THE IMPORTANCE OF PLAY

## Skills

Research,  
extrapolation,  
synthesis,  
creativity,  
communication

*"Play is integral to the development of the human brain, and is an important tool in keeping the brain working at its best throughout life."*



**Read** the chapter "Jerome Lemelson's Flying Balloon" in *Edison's Concrete Piano* and watch the Stuart Brown TED Talk on The Importance of Play ([www.ted.com/talks/stuart\\_brown\\_says\\_play\\_is\\_more\\_than\\_fun\\_it\\_s\\_vital.html](http://www.ted.com/talks/stuart_brown_says_play_is_more_than_fun_it_s_vital.html)), or do your own research into the importance of play.

## Challenge



Think about the material you've learned in the class in which this exercise is taking place. Think of a portion of it that has been taught to you (for example, if this is language arts class, the use of semi-colons) and come up with a way to teach/learn it that is based on play. Describe your new method for teaching

in words, diagrams, or any other way that will provide your teacher full directions to be able to use your method in class. Also write a short rationale to explain to your teacher why it is a good idea to teach using play. Include at least two references to back up your rationale.

