A top-down view of a wooden desk with various objects: a typewriter, a camera, glasses, a coffee cup, roses, and papers.

Searching as  
strategic  
exploration: using  
escape rooms to  
teach information  
literacy



Context

ACRL Framework

Escape room 101

Assessment and lessons learned

# Library orientation



One of three sessions  
Engage with the library  
and its services  
Learn basic information  
literacy skills



# ACRL Framework



Searching as strategic exploration

Research as inquiry

# Knowledge practices



utilize divergent (e.g., brainstorming) and convergent (e.g., selecting the best source) thinking when searching  
design and refine needs and search strategies as necessary, based on search results  
use various research methods, based on need, circumstance, and type of inquiry  
understand how information systems are organized in order to access relevant information

# Learning objectives



Navigate the catalogue

Use electronic resources (Kanopy, ebooks)

Locate books using call numbers (on the shelves/in reserve)

Find information in books

Explore the library

Evaluate sources

Familiarize themselves with APA citation style

# What is an escape room?



Escape rooms are “live-action team-based games where players discover clues, solve puzzles, and accomplish tasks in one or more rooms in order to accomplish a specific goal (usually escaping from the room) in a limited amount of time” (Nicholson, 2015).

# Why an escape room?



Active learning



Teamwork



Critical thinking



Problem-based



# Logistics



Space

Audience

Budget

Narrative

Time

Clues

Staff

Test

# Space



# Basic components



# Narrative



You were caught plagiarizing on an assignment. The Associate Dean of Student Affairs sent you to the library to learn how to find and use scholarly sources. He said you had one hour to prove that you have learned your lesson or you will be expelled.

# Clues



Can be anything:

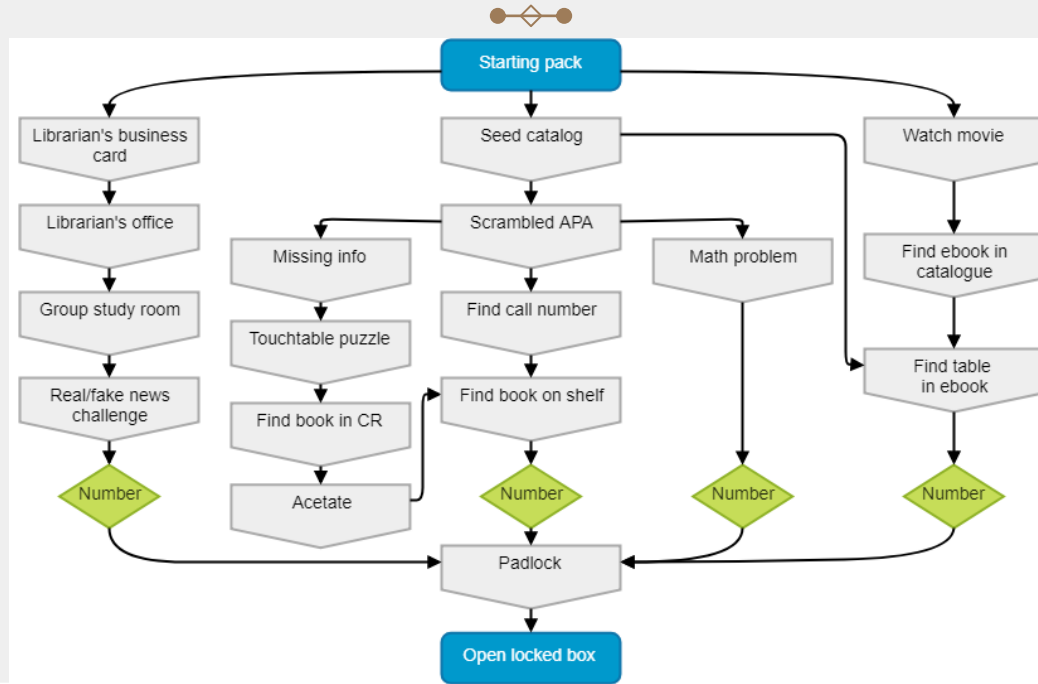
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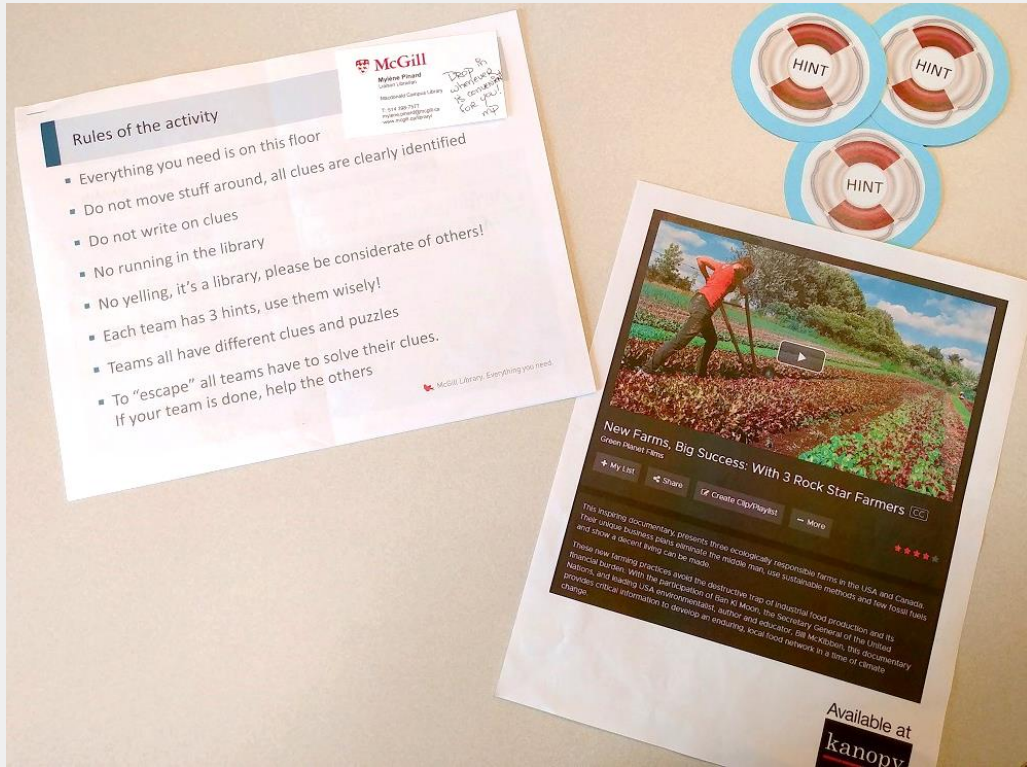
Ciphers

Word/math puzzles

Etc.

# Puzzle flowchart





### Rules of the activity

- Everything you need is on this floor
- Do not move stuff around, all clues are clearly identified
- Do not write on clues
- No running in the library
- No yelling, it's a library, please be considerate of others!
- Each team has 3 hints, use them wisely!
- Teams all have different clues and puzzles
- To "escape" all teams have to solve their clues. If your team is done, help the others

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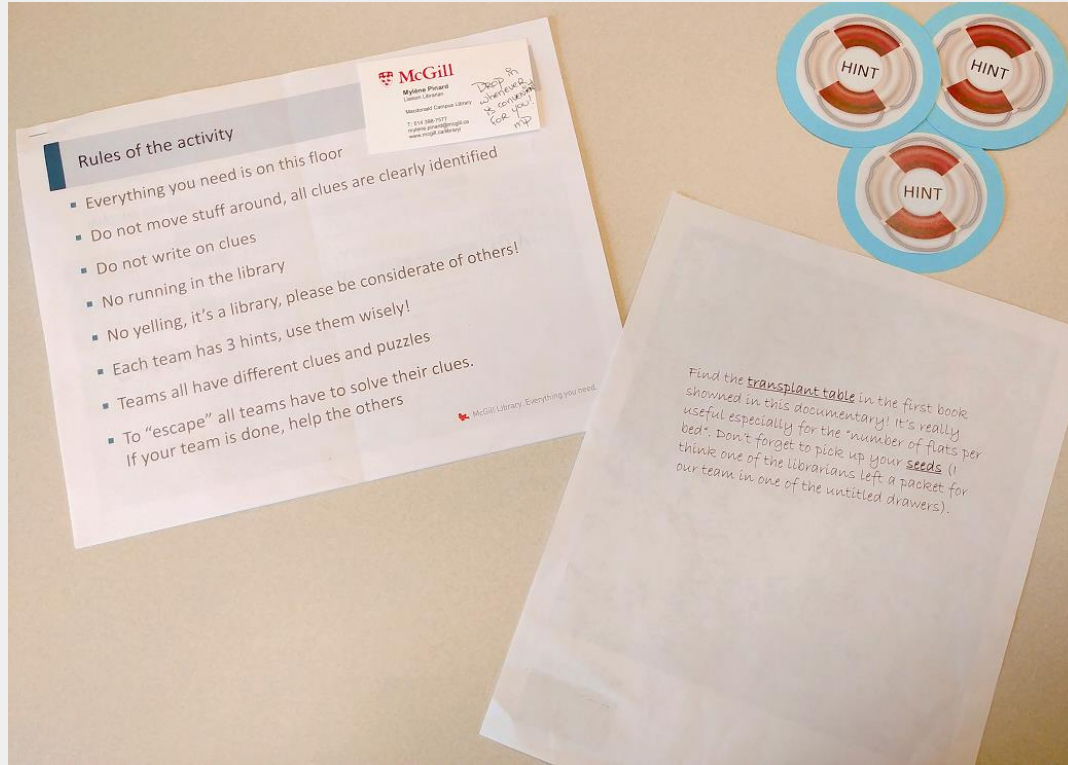
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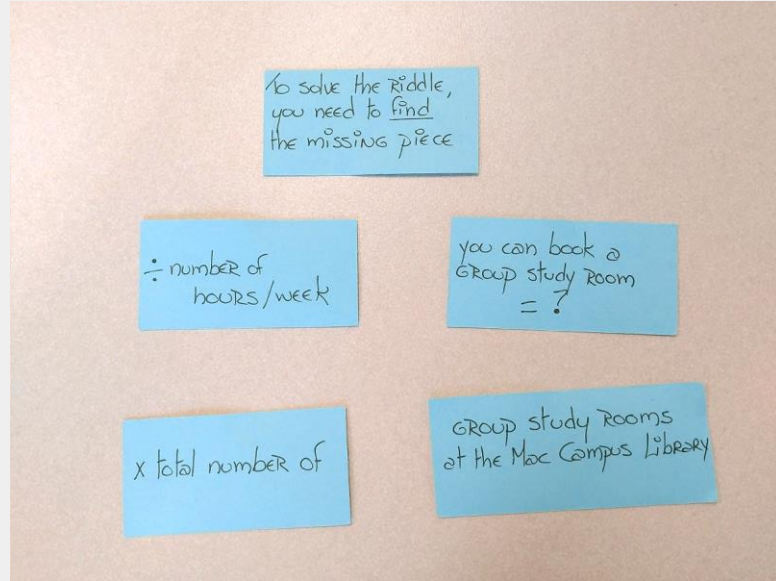
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New Farms, Big Success: With 3 Rock Star Farmers  
Green Planet Films  
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This inspiring documentary presents three ecologically responsible farms in the USA and Canada. Their organic business plans address the needs that use sustainable methods and new fossil fuels and show a decent living can be made.  
These new farming practices avoid the destructive trap of industrial food production and its fossil border. With the participation of Ben Ki Mook, the Secretary General of the United Nations, and leading USA environmental author and educator, Bill McKibben, this documentary provides crucial information to develop an enduring, local food network in a time of climate change.

Available at  
kanopy









What is your password?

*tap to edit*



COOPERATION IN THE COLL...

- faster growth of meat animals
- lower feed consumption per unit product
- better consistency of product to market requirements, such as composition, colour, size, shape, flavour and texture
- greater uniformity of product
- decreased interval between births
- earlier reproductive maturity
- greater fertility
- better 'maternal traits' (ability to produce milk and feed young to weaning)
- greater robustness, better
- lower mortality rate of offspring
- longer productive lifespan
- faster rate of genetic change

Modern breeders often categorize high yield of the primary product as an increase in biological and economic efficiency not by higher outputs of an animal that products but by reduced costs of production. Overall functioning is an important part of the productivity of an animal; there is a limited advantage in getting a high yield from an animal who is too lame to walk into the milking parlour or to the feeders and drinkers or into the truck for transport to the slaughterhouse, or who collapses from stress during the journey.

By the late 20th century it became clear to animal breeders and farmers that the rapid development of a single aspect of an animal's biology and growth rate or milk production, was unbalancing the animal as a whole (see Figure 3). Breeders then started adding items to their selection criteria to account of the ever-increasing aspects of its biological functioning that were more selection, rather than less, and more genetic research. Selection for more selection, was promised as well as productivity. This has led to around ten items in 2007. For dairy cows, by 2008 selection was described by the Total Performance Index had changed from milk yield to an equation with 11 variable terms whose weights can be fine-tuned by breeders and statisticians in the search for the ideally balanced animal.

genetic traits are those that contribute to:

- number of young who die early or are born dead;
- longevity of breeding pigs, dairy cows and ewes;
- ability to breed for better resistance to parasites, to infectious diseases and genetics-related diseases such as lameness.

Author  
Flack, S.

## BREEDING FOR PRODUCTIVITY | 27

There may also be concerns that further selection will compromise other desirable traits that are typically not measured (genetic pollution, or selection for structure when other traits are not measured) - selection for genetic traits may also have indirect effects on other traits.

Genetic pollution is the introduction of unwanted genes into a population through interbreeding between the two populations. This is a risk when using genetic selection on a population that has been genetically improved. For example, the use of improved pig breeding systems can lead to a loss of the genetic diversity that is important for disease resistance in the common pig.

20.3 THE WAY OF GENETIC CHANGE DURING THE 20th CENTURY

Selective breeding, based on performance-based selection, can be conducted in practice using either of the two methods described above. In the case of artificial selection, the selection process is controlled by the breeder. In the case of natural selection, the selection process is controlled by the environment. The difference between the two is that artificial selection is a deliberate process, while natural selection is a natural process.

In the 19th century, selective breeding and selection were used to produce animals with desirable traits. This was done by selecting the best animals and breeding them together. This process was called selective breeding. In the 20th century, selective breeding was used to produce animals with desirable traits. This was done by selecting the best animals and breeding them together. This process was called selective breeding. In the 20th century, selective breeding was used to produce animals with desirable traits. This was done by selecting the best animals and breeding them together. This process was called selective breeding.

# Navigate catalogue



McGill University Library Search Interface

Search Term: The Market Gardener

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  - Article Chapter (1444)

15,262 results in McGill University Library

Sorted by: Library

1.  **The market gardener : a successful grower's handbook for small-scale organic farming**  
by Jean-Martin Fortier

Print Book 2014 | [Explore all editions & formats](#)

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CNN BUSINESS Markets Tech Media Success Perspectives Video

# Cash-strapped farmers feed candy to cows

by Aaron Smith @AaronSmithCNN  
 October 10, 2012 5:29 AM ET



Kentucky cows chow down on candy

Cattle farmers struggling with record corn prices are feeding their cows candy instead.

That's right, candy. Cows are being fed chocolate bars, gummy worms, ice cream sprinkles, marshmallows, bits of hard candy and even powdered hot chocolate mix, according to cattle farmers, bovine nutritionists and commodities dealers.

"It has been a practice going on for decades and is a very good way to for producers to reduce feed cost, and to provide less expensive food for consumers," said KI Fanning, a livestock nutritionist with Great Plains Livestock Consulting, Inc. in

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You Can Still Buy This "Millionaire Maker" Stock

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# Assessment



**When asked what they enjoyed most about the game:**

“I liked the teamwork and that we were trying to focus and help each other”

“It played with your mind and made you think”

“How we had to explore for ourselves”

# Assessment



**88% would recommend it to other students**

**68.5% said the game helped them learn about the library**

“I learned how to find books...”

“afterwards it made me learn a lot even though it didn't feel like it at the time”

“There is just not books at the library”

“Go ask the librarian for help!”



# Assessment



“I’ve learned that librarians are tricky !”

# Lessons



Testing is important

Be clear about the rules

Let students struggle

Calculate the time it takes to reset the game

Puzzles can break

## Interested? How can you start?



Go to a local escape room to experience it for yourself

Breakout EDU

Read about other educational escape rooms

Take a look at what you already have

# References



Association of College and Research Libraries. (2016). *Framework for information literacy for higher education*. Retrieved from <http://www.ala.org/acrl/standards/ilframework>.

Nicholson, S. (2015). *Peeking behind the locked door: A survey of escape room facilities*. Retrieved from <http://scottnicholson.com/pubs/erfacwhite.pdf>

# Thanks for attending!

Any questions?

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