

# Awe activity brainstorm

Note: Jason Walters (NUFS – Nagoya) and I are working on Awe together. These are some notes about activity ideas he sent me after reading Keltner's *Awe* book. We will be co-presenting on the topic in the future.

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Using AWE to enhance language learning- some ideas adjacent to Keltner:

## **Cultural Exploration** (pgs. 57-65)

Introducing students to awe-inspiring aspects of culture

- Virtual tours of historical landmarks
- Culture-specific poetry (haiku, etc.) to communicate transcendental experience
- Guest speakers with unique cultural perspectives or experience

## **Outdoor Learning** (pgs. 105-107)

Getting the class outside and moving – you're already doing this and looks great

- Nature/Awe walks, describing surroundings in target language
- Discuss natural phenomena, vocabulary building
- Explore "self-extending into environment" or vice versa
- Pair-guided noticing

## **Collective effervescence** (pgs. 98-111)

I really like this concept- and lends itself to so many things we can do, especially with physical movement

- "human wave" energy breaks
- dance / song
- team-building games
- ties in well with awe walks

## **Epiphanies** (pgs. 237-250)

Capture moments of sudden realization or breakthroughs in understanding

- "Epiphany moment" photos
- Guided reflections/diaries
- Logic puzzles and brain teasers for pairs and teams
- Think-aloud practice (working to verbalize thought processes while solving language problems)