

Activity Name:

Neighborhood Detective Public Space Cards

Or

Neighborhood Detective Mission Cards

The *Neighborhood Detective Public Space Cards* grew out of the “Barri Detective” project, which enlisted children already participating at El Carrito to question and explore their current location by forming teams and answering 5 questions on a small flyer.¹

Objectives

- **Urban Literacy** – To promote the idea and practice that children can start looking critically at their surrounding environment; to use the neighborhood as a *laboratory for learning* in which children develop critical skills of analysis, practical and abstract problem solving, spatial thinking and working in groups.
- **Diffusion 1** – To create a dialogue among children about Public Space that reaches beyond the Classroom and El Carrito
- **Diffusion 2** – To engage parents for the purposes of diffusion of Raons Publiques, through the engagement of children
- **Diffusion 3** – To create a relationship between El Carrito participation and virtual Participation online

The Mission

There will be 25 Neighborhood Detective Trading Cards that correspond to 25 Public Spaces in the Fort Pienc neighborhood.

There will be 4 categories of cards with corresponding colors, depending on the “Energia de L’espai” as determined by objective and subjective characteristics of each space. (This needs to be more thought through)

Category 1 – Public Space is a good space to be maintained (e.g. Plaza Fort Pienc)

Category 2 – Public Space has room for improvement

Category 3 – Public Space needs improvement

Category 4 – Public Space needs to be better connected or to be a link (e.g. Ribes Street, Promenade)

Category 5 – Public Space needs a complete new vision (ONLY the Solar at Marina will be in this Category)

¹ Questions:

A Card will be given to an individual child or group (a Neighborhood Detective) upon the successful completion of the First Mission (the preliminary 5 questions already determined by Raons Publiques).

The Card is both a prize for completing The Mission and also a second mission, instructions for which are written on the card, and are as follows:

Complete the collection of all 25 cards. How?

- 1. Exchange cards with fellow players until you collect them all!*
- 2. Complete the questions on the back of the cards and you will receive the prize of a new card (Questions: Number of trees; Number of benches; Number of people in each particular Public Space depicted on the card.)*
- 3. Go online for more information.*

Completa la colecció de 25 Espais del Barri. Com??

- 1.- Intercanvia les targetes per a tenir les totes!*
- 2.- Completa la informació de la dreta i buscan's al barri amb el Carretó, et donarem una nova targeta per cada targeta omplerta.*
- 3.- Entra a la web per a saber quines targetes et manquen per a completar la colecció. Ja en tens totes! Doncs felicitats! ets un Fort Pienenc!*

Once a Neighborhood Detective (child or group) completes the questions on the back of the card, they get a new card as a prize. The new card is also a new mission, perpetuating the game until the Neighborhood Detective collects all 25.

There will be a prize (diploma or other) and a Final Mission for all Neighborhood detectives that have a complete set of Neighborhood Detective Trading Cards.

The Final Mission will be the design by the Neighborhood Detective of the Solar at Marina which will be part of a Community Activity at a specific date.

Levels of Play

Children can play with the Public Space Trading cards on three levels:

1. Collect and Trade cards in order to have a complete set
2. Fill out the "Mission" questions on the backs of each card
3. Go online and interact with the System of Public Spaces to be developed on the Raons Publiques blog.

Methodology

Distribution

The cards can be distributed at

1. *El Carrito*
2. *School Activities*
3. *Community Activities organized by Raons*

Note: The first step should be the original Neighborhood Detective 5 Questions in order to give an example of how to complete an “Urban Mission” and thereby teach them how to do the following missions on the back of the cards.

Motivation

1. **Playing the Game:** Enthusiasm for solving the “missions” (Most children were excited about the first 5 questions, and so we anticipate the enthusiasm to continue and fuel this project too)
2. **A Full Collection:** Collecting a full set of the *Neighborhood Detective Public Space Cards*
3. **Recognition:** We hope to have a large scale map of all the spaces (Locations of *Neighborhood Detective Public Space Cards*) and the Neighborhood Detectives (individuals or teams) playing documenting how many cards they have. (this part might be a little over the top)

Evaluation

The evaluation will be the number of Neighborhood Detectives that come back to us (at El Carrito or other Community Activity) and show us the amount of cards they have and how they have filled out the cards.

Another level of evaluation can take place online, but this needs to be more thought out.