Cricket balls, rolling pins and gourds: Artefacts and stories of leadership significance.

Emma Watton, Lancaster University Management School
e.watton@lancaster.ac.uk
The idea:

An artefact is defined as an object that is made by a human being. Typically it is an object of cultural or historical interest. An artefact is durable, public, and materially present (Kafai, 2006). **Hoskins (1998)** described individual sense making through objects as a metaphor for self.
The idea:

**Storytelling** is gaining popularity in a higher education context with studies demonstrating storytelling as a reflective and learning process (Clandinin and Connolly, 1998; **McDrury and Alterio, 2003**; Moon 2010).
The idea:

Leadership learning occurs naturally through accidental events rather than a planned approach (Burgoyne & Hodgson, 1983; McCall, 1998). However leadership learning at the level of lived experience remains elusive (Lowe & Gardner, 2000; Kempster 2009).
RQ1: How do artefacts and storytelling help to inform effective leadership?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grounded theory concepts</th>
<th>Equivalent nomothetic concepts</th>
<th>For this research</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cause</td>
<td>Independent variable</td>
<td>Storytelling? Artefacts?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consequence</td>
<td>Dependent variable</td>
<td>Leadership development Effective leadership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingency</td>
<td>Moderating variable</td>
<td>Artefacts? Storytelling?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Condition</td>
<td>Intervening variable</td>
<td>Leadership learning Leadership identity Implicit leadership theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Covariance</td>
<td>Correlation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Context</td>
<td>Context</td>
<td>A variety of contexts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table adapted from Kan and Parry 2004
Possible research relationships:

**Independent variable:**
- Storytelling or artefacts

**Intervening variable:**
- Implicit leadership theory;
- L identity; L learning

**Moderating variable:**
- Artefacts or storytelling

**Dependent variable:**
- L development;
- Effective L
What’s new and so what?

Leadership
Learning

Artefacts

Storytelling

Findings and contribution
References


