WHY:
Because the camps are **FUN**—yeah!
And, in the process, kids will learn how to **THINK**!

Thinking is essential:

- for constructive communication
- for healthy mental & emotional development
- for dealing with the pressures of life
- for good judgment & for self-growth

Thinking is learning:

- to listen to each other
- to ask interesting questions
- how to make connections between ideas
- how to build on each other's ideas
- what reasons are and how to express them
- to think before you act

WHO: Dr. Susan Gardner (Dr. Sue), graduate of Oxford University, Philosophy Professor at Capilano University and Director of The Vancouver Institute of Philosophy for Children (www.vip4c.ca), and Anastasia Anderson, director of the Centre for Philosophy for Children at UFV will supervise the construction of the philosophically-based programs, as well as their implementation. They will also be present throughout the camp experience. Each camp team will consist of at least one graduate student, an undergraduate with extensive training in philosophy, and at least two volunteers, who have philosophical and/or early childhood education background. We will ensure that the ratio of counsellor/camper never falls below 1/6 campers.

WHEN

Camps 1: 2026, July 6 -10 (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

Camps 2: 2026, July 13 – 17 (9:00a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

Drop off from 8:30 – 9:00 a.m.
Pick up from 4:00 – 4:30 p.m.

WHERE

University of the Fraser Valley (North Gym) 33844 King Rd, Abbotsford, BC V2S 7M7

For more: thinkingplayground.org

PRICE: $350 to register for one week of camp and $600 for two weeks (same camper). $400 for international students for one week and $720 for two weeks (same camper).

THINKING

PLAYGROUND

Do you want your child to have the 'thinking tools 'to solve problems, make good decisions, confidently self-express, be open to exploring different ideas, and transform imagination into innovation?

then

THE THINKING PLAYGROUND

is just what you have been looking for!
Online at
www.thinkingplayground.org

ROYAL CHAMPIONS Camp 1: Ages 6-9

Join us in a medieval fantasy world of might and myth! Decide when and how you will raise your voice or your weapon. Protect the people of the land from the threat of beasts and the schemes of those who wish to gain power through trickery. Compete in a grand tournament of knights for prizes and status. Quest together for answers to tough questions and solutions to frustrating problems. Must we still protect villagers who have told us to leave them alone? Should the knight who slayed the dragon get most of the gold? Should we tell the Prince a truth he doesn't want to hear? Must you stay true to your duty or your heart when only one can be honored? Spend a fantastical week overcoming these challenges and more through drama, grand outside activities, custom board games, and costume crafts!

METAMORPHS Camp 1: Ages 10- 13

How would you change if you had to *live* your video game character? Would you change your perspective if you were the defense or prosecution team in a court case? Imagine walking into a Time Machine and walking out the other side 70 years older! What if you had the opportunity to add cybernetic augmentations to your brain and body? In this year's Metamorph camp, campers will engage in enormously fun activities which will immerse them in aspects of change. From our live action role playing DND game to the trial of Changeling, a wicked character exposing Metamorphs to different kinds of change, to arts and crafts and outdoor games, even a battle-rap competition! Come and Metamorph with us; we will create a memory that will never change.

UNIVERSITY OF THE FRASER VALLEY

The University of the Fraser Valley, its philosophy department, its college of arts and the **Vancouver Institute of Philosophy For Children (**www.vip4c.ca**)** are joining forces to bring "fun" and "thinking" to youngsters in the Fraser Valley by putting on camps for each of the two weeks with carefully crafted curriculums and a unique pedagogical approach.

"

Thinking is something that needs to be learned; it doesn't just happen"
- Dr. Sue

TRANSFORMERS Camp 2: Ages 6-9

Imagine what the world would look like if you were the age of a grandparent! Perhaps you have always wondered what it would be like to be a lion or a frog. Imagine learning new evidence in a courtroom that transforms your perspective! Join the Transformers to explore the world and answer your most curious questions in totally new ways! With all our fun activities, campers will get to transform into crazy creatures, explore their own fantasy world, and show off their creativity in musical games, art projects, and theatre performances, as well as transform into energy-makers as we play our outdoor games. Join us as we embark on a jam-packed quest to investigate how to transform "thinking" into the most fun ever (!) at The Thinking Playground.

NOBLE WARRIORS Camp 2: Ages 10-13

The kingdom is in peril and it's up to us, noble warriors of the court, to save the land. Throughout our week of fantasy fun, we will be faced with wicked problems. We will strive to overcome these challenges together, for the more is the merrier when it comes to thinking. The week will be filled with storytelling, dramatic activities, a tournament of knights and unique games. It will be a quest like no other! Our time as warriors of the royal court will have us facing many obstacles, some requiring glorious feats of bravery and teamwork, others demanding genius problem solving and deep thinking. Our warriors will be stumped and intrigued by questions such as: Should we judge ourselves as unfit to be a warrior if we put our well-being above our duty? How can we find the line between bravery and foolishness? Both the pen and the sword will be at our warriors' disposal, and choosing the right tool could decide the fate of the kingdom. Do you have what it takes to be a hero of the realm (and is being a hero what we should be striving for above all else?) Join us and find out what challenges lay in wait for the noble warriors of the kingdom!