

Using Classroom Community as a Safety Net for Encouraging Students to Take Risks

Presented by:

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Brief Introductions

- * **Christina**

- * Associate professor in Teacher Education Department

- * **Sophia**

- * Saint Rose Class of 2012 (Childhood Education) & 2013 Literacy Masters Program)

- * 3rd grade teacher at P.S. 204, Bronx, N.Y.

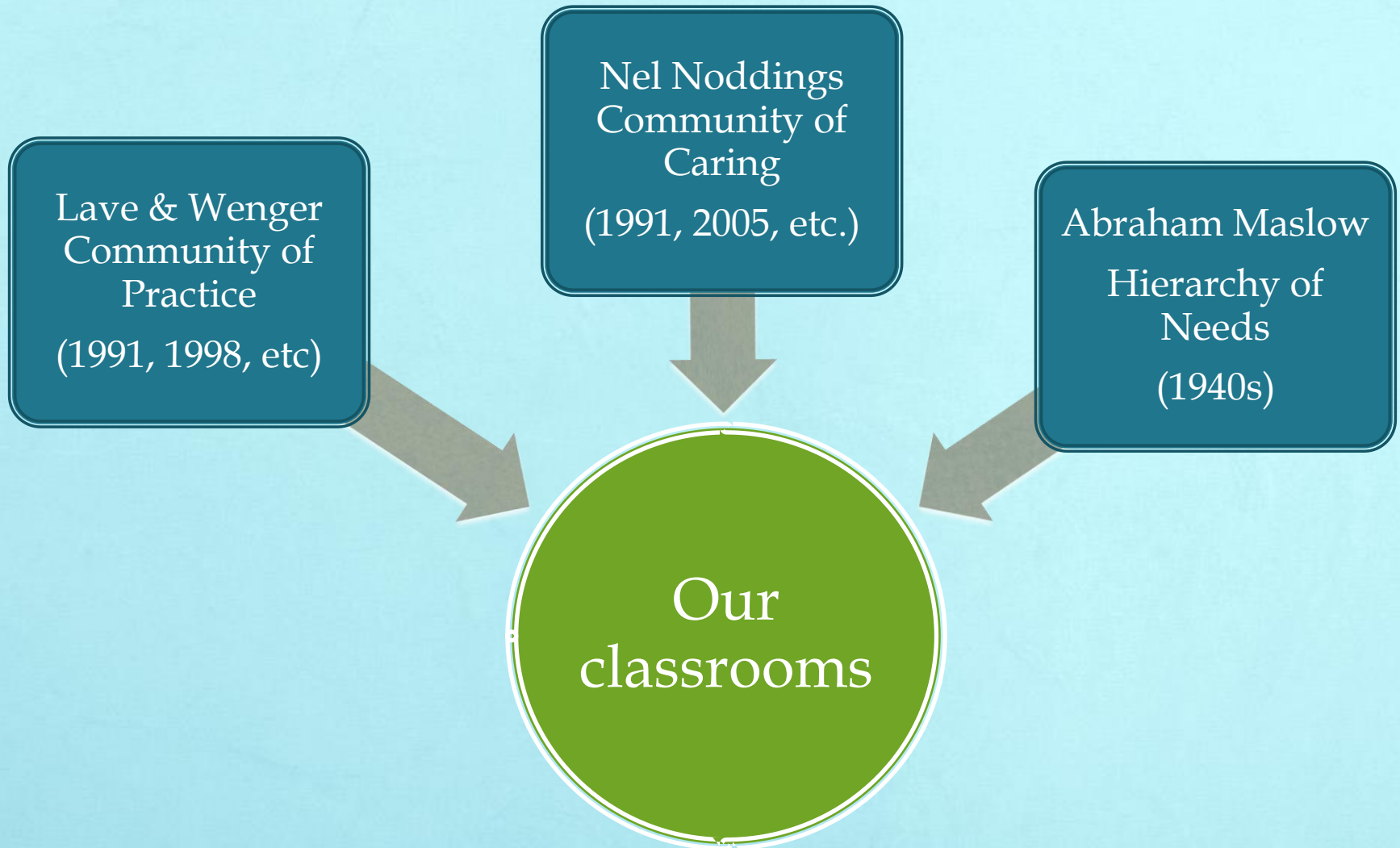


Why Should We Build Community?

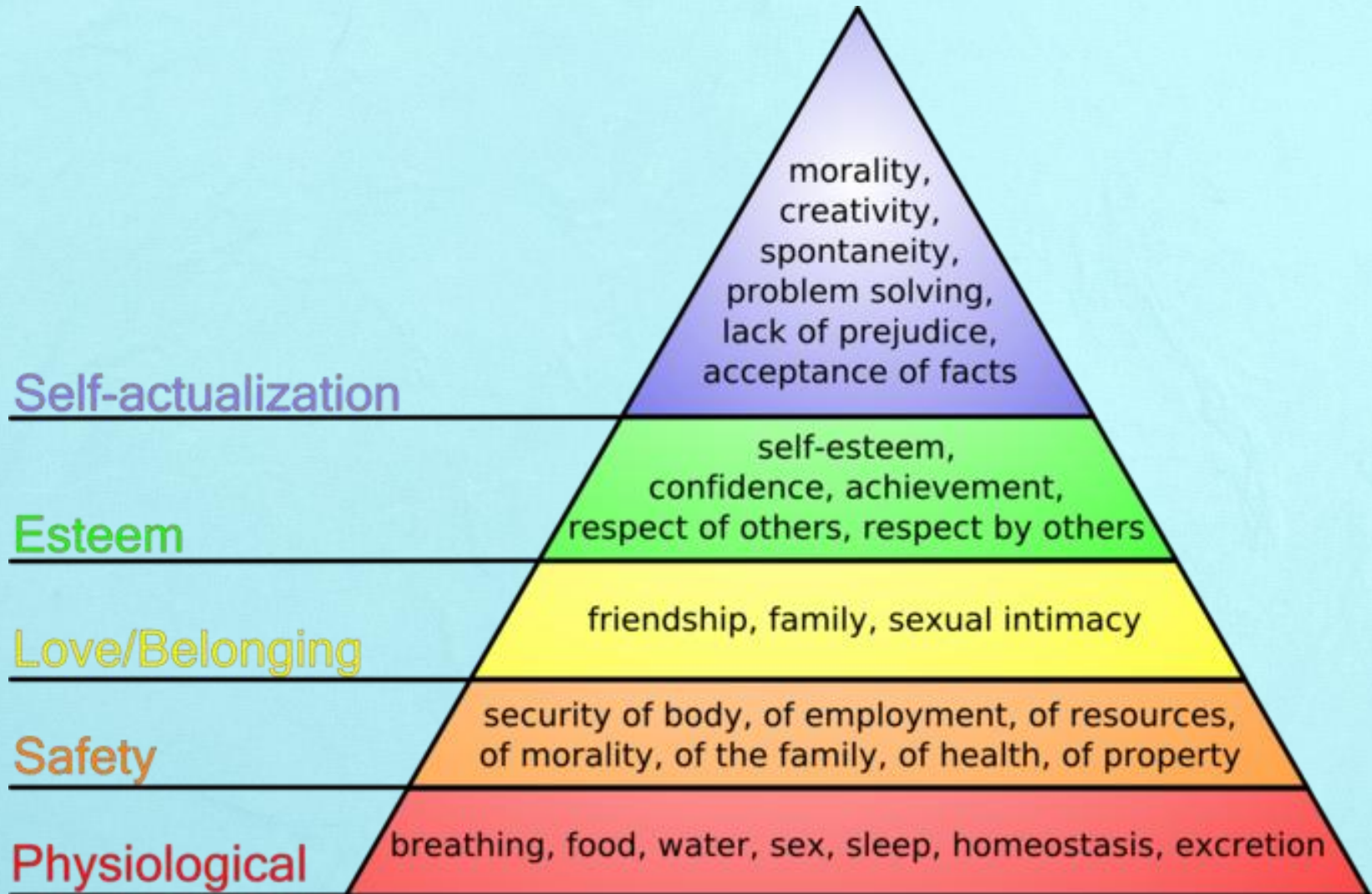
“We know that where community exists it confers upon its members identity, a sense of belonging, and a measure of security. It is in communities that the attributes that distinguish humans as social creatures are nourished.”

Gardner, J. W. (1991)

What Literature Do We Draw On?



Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs



How Do We Build Community?

Christina

- * Try to quickly learn names
- * Scaffold material so it's easier at first
- * Group activities first few days & mixed groups so students meet others
- * Honor prior knowledge
- * Humor

Sophia

- * Make the effort to understand students needs
- * Quickly learn students strengths and weaknesses
- * Connect to the parents of the children
- * Modeling the idea that we are not expected to know everything

References

Gardner, J. W. (1991). *Building community*. Washington, DC: Independent Sector, p. 5.

Lave, J. & Wenger, E. (1991). *Situated learning: Legitimate peripheral participation*. Cambridge University Press.

Maslow, A. H. (1943). A theory of human motivation. *Psychological Review*, 50(4), p. 370–96.

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