

Debates in Education

Revolutionizing Schools with Design Thinking & Game-Like Learning



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Welcome!



C. Ross Flatt:
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Before we start...

1. Draw a triangle
2. Draw some circles
3. Draw filled-in circles inside
4. Above each, draw an upside - down V
5. Above, draw a bunch of straight lines
6. Draw a rectangle below the triangle



WHAT DOES **PLAY** MEAN TO YOU?

*When was the last
time you played?*



LET'S PLAY!

ROCK

PAPER

SCISSORS

PEDRA

PAPER

TISORES



RULES

- 1. Play ONE ROUND of Rock, Paper, Scissors with a person next to you**
- 2. If you LOSE, please take a seat.**
- 3. If you WIN, find another person who won and play them.**
- 4. As you win, continue to move toward the front.**



HOW DID PLAY
TRANSFORM
THIS SPACE?





INSTITUTE

of

PLAY

@instituteofplay





We design experiences that make learning irresistible.



At the core of the experiences we design are games, play, and the principles that underlie them.



We empower people to thrive as active citizens in a connected world.



**Our purpose is
to transform education
through play.**



WHY PLAY?

- **Play builds social skills and encourages positive interactions with others**
- **Play activates the part of the brain responsible for reason, judgment, language, and memory.**
- **Skills associated with play lead to better academic performance.**



PLAYS WELL WITH OTHERS

Why What You Learned in Preschool Is Crucial at Work

OCT. 16, 2015



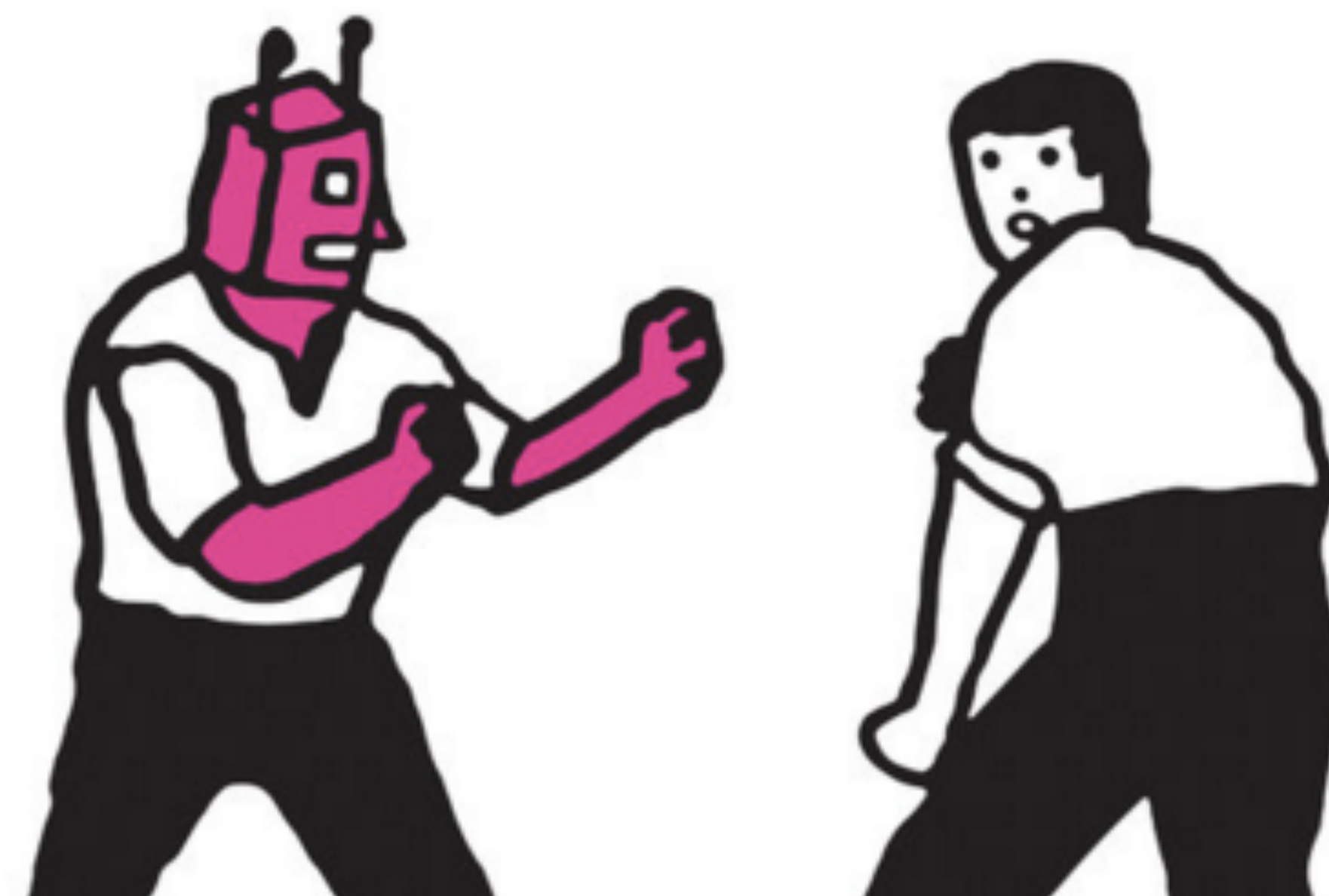
Claire Cain Miller
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Email

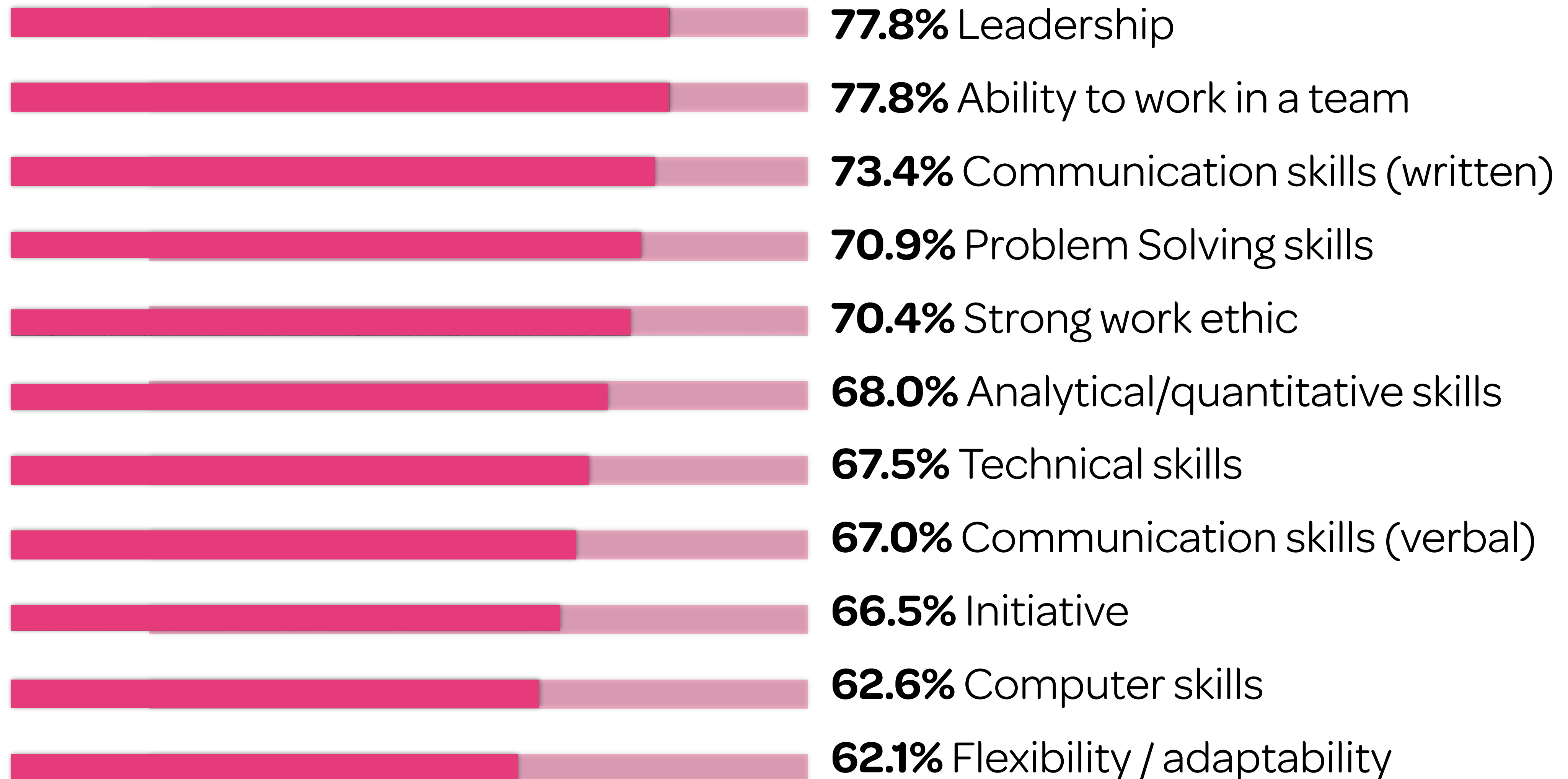
Share

For all the jobs that machines can now do — whether performing surgery, driving cars or serving food — they still lack one distinctly human trait. They have no social skills.

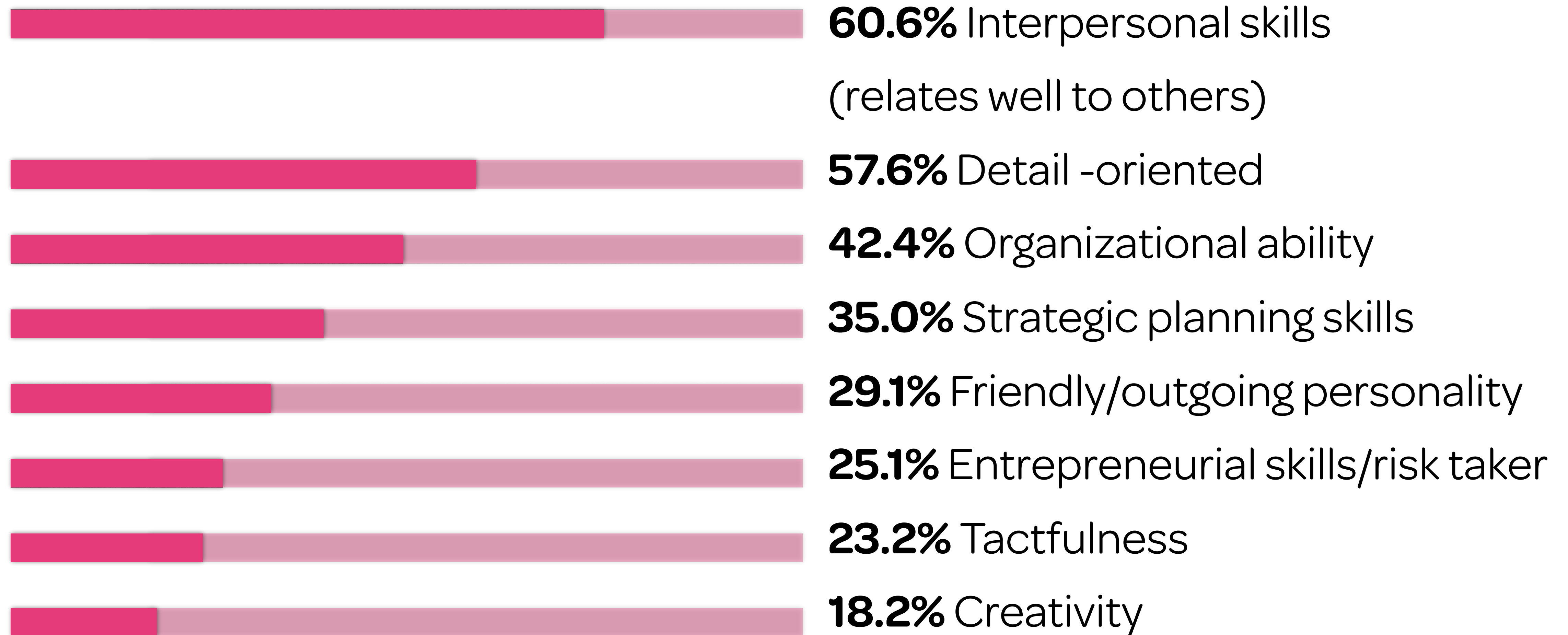
Yet skills like cooperation, empathy and flexibility have become increasingly vital in modern-day work. Occupations that require strong social skills have grown much more than others since 1980, according to new research. And the only occupations that have shown consistent wage growth since 2000 require both cognitive and social skills.



Attributes Employers Seek on a Candidate's Resume



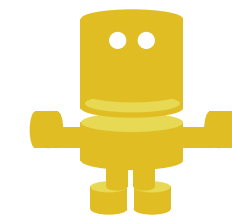
Attributes Employers Seek on a Candidate's Resume



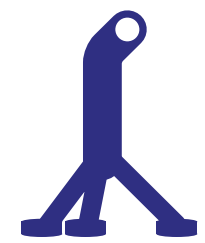
Classrooms must support students in developing 21st Century Skills



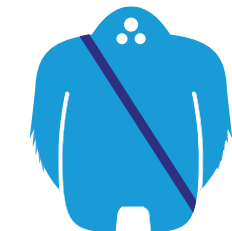
Critical Thinking



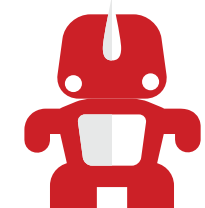
Problem Solving



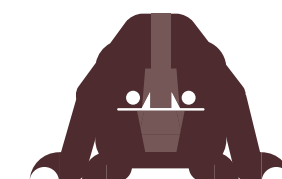
Empathy



Collaboration



Creativity



Communication



GAME LIKE LEARNING PRINCIPLES

Everyone is a Participant

Learning Feels Like Play

Everything is Interconnected

Learning Happens By Doing

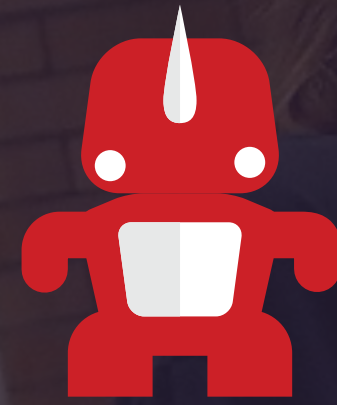
Failure is Reframed as Iteration

Feedback is Immediate and Ongoing

Challenge is Constant



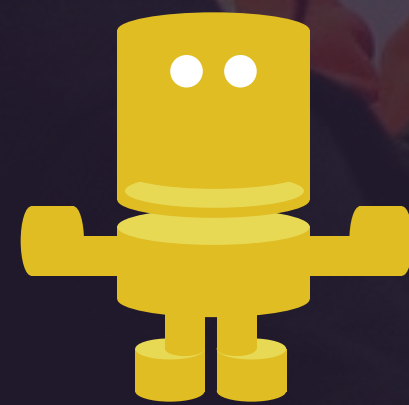
Challenging Students To Invent Their Future



**New York City public school
Opened in 2009**



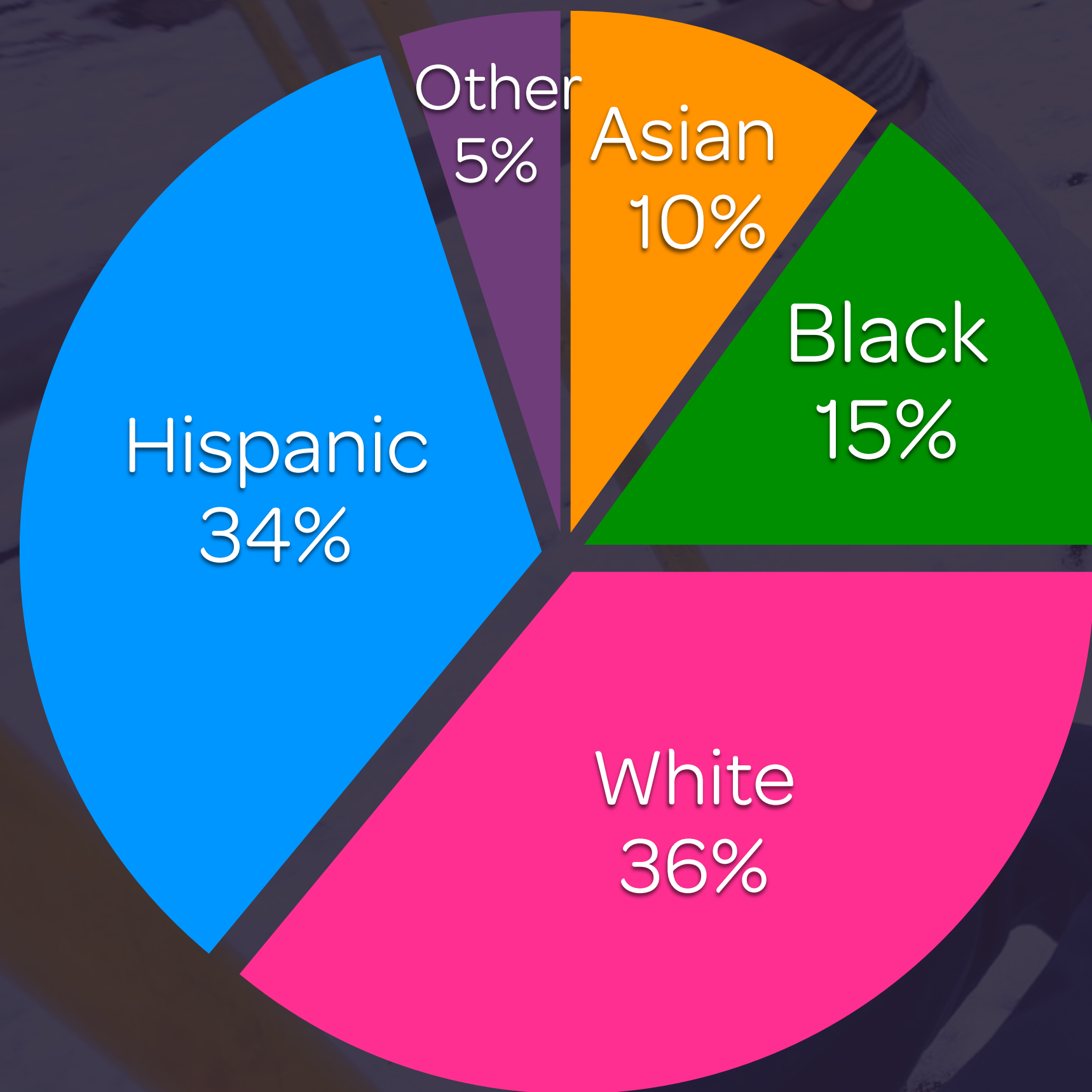
**Game-based learning
Design thinking
Systems thinking**



**6-12th grade
~680 students
No entry tests**



Demographics*



42% Free Lunch
30% Special Ed
3% English Lang Learners

Standardized Tests

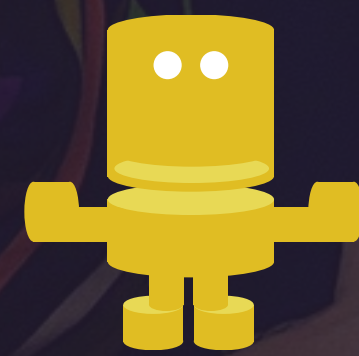
- Students perform above average in comparison to citywide results on Math and ELA (8th grade)

*Data from 2014-2015 School Report





Preliminary results from the **Connecting Youth: Digital Learning Research Project** at NYU indicate that Quest to Learn students demonstrate **significant learning growth** in the following areas:



critical
thinking



analytical
skills



problem
solving



written
communication

Teacher Quest




Re-Imagining Teaching Through Games And Play

A group of people, including men and women, are gathered around a table in what appears to be a meeting or classroom setting. They are looking at a document or laptop on the table. The background shows a whiteboard with some writing and a laptop. The overall scene is a professional or educational environment.

Our goal is to re-envision the way teachers are taught and assessed, so that they can transform the world of students.



A stylized letter 'Q' in pink with a blue stick figure character integrated into its top loop. The stick figure has a long neck and a small circle at the top.

Teacher quest

