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Bloom's Taxonomy

       My first takeaway on Bloom's Taxonomy was essentially the same as my first takeaway from all of the other pedagogical material that we have been introduced to in MSE651 thus far. That is, this approach seems like a good practice but this is not how I recall my educational experience. Because this is my first foray into the educator's side of education, I relate the material to my experience as a learner. The vast majority of my education was stuck on the first rung. This quote from the essay by Jessica Shabatura essentially sums up my entire K-12 education: "Too many lower level outcomes might cause boredom or apathy."

       I found part of the essay by Jessica Shabatura to be contradictory. The essay suggests that progression through the taxonomy is hierarchical in that you can not have a higher rung without building on a lower rung. The auther states, for example, that "Before you can understand a concept, you must remember it." The author proceeds to say you can skip rungs depending on your audience.

       Maybe I am not reading it as intended, that is, as a tool to help lesson planning. However, from a pedegagical point of view, I can't see any order that would fit more than one individual learner and/or concept. Perhaps, the value is in the categories and the binning of verbs into these different learning outcomes and less in the order of operations. I can imagine deep learning taking place in a reverse hierarchy. In fact, if I were to set out to eat this learning cake, I would start at the top to maintain the cake's structural integrity. Similarly, if a kid wanted to learn how to build a mighty lego structure (or an adult wanted to learn auto-cad), I would not suggest trying to remember all the pieces so that you can understand the way they fit together and then apply that knowledge etcetera. I would dump out the pieces and start creating. As they create, they are evaluating and applying and analyzing how the pieces perform, which leads to an understanding and a repository of ideas and facts that are anchored to a personal creative expression.