

Developing Creativity in the Classroom

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"*Creativity*" is the generation of new ideas – either new ways of looking at existing problems, or of seeing new opportunities.... Sir George Cox, 2005

- **Creativity Start** –structure & goals, presence 5m
- **Introductions** – name, work, creative successes 20m
- **Developing Creativity** [brick, bulldog, many ideas] 15m
- **Bananas** 20m
- **Creativity competencies survey** 10m
- **Break** 10m
- **Idea Relay** [groups of five or six] 45m
- **Creative reflection** 20m
- **Creative wrap** [ten things to remember, your plan] 15m
- **Adjourn**

Creativity: Creativity is a skill that requires practice and dedication over time. Included are some exercises to continue over the next three months or for tomorrow morning. Improvement in creativity can occur through practice as well as changes in lifestyle and engagement in a supportive environment.

Resources

IBM survey: In a increasing complex world, what is the most important skill? <http://z.umn.edu/ibmceostudy>

Newsweek article: Status of creativity in the United States. <http://z.umn.edu/newsweekcreativity>

Brad Hokanson: *Developing Creative Thinking Skills on Amazon in paperback or Kindle.*

Marshmallow challenge: A 45 min. collaboration and creativity exercise. <http://marshmallowchallenge.com>

Page Turner by Joseph Herscher: Goldberg machine. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GOMIBdM6N7Q>

Making a Rube Goldberg machine:

Making OK-GO video; hints on Goldberg Machine construction.

<http://www.ted.com/talks/adamsadowskyengineersaviralmusicvideo.html>

Kyung Hee Kim (2011) The Creativity Crisis... Creativity Research Journal 23(4) 285-295.

Steven Johnson: *Where Good Ideas Come From*, 2010. Riverhead Books.

Keith Sawyer: *Group Genius: The creative power of collaboration*, 2007. Basic Books.

Teresa Amabile: How to Kill Creativity, *Harvard Business Journal* [September-October 1998]

Warren Berger: (2014) *A more beautiful question*. Bloomsbury Publishing.

Arthur Cropley: (2003). *Creativity in education and learning: A guide for teachers and educators*. London: Routledge Falmer.

Katie White: *Unlocked: Assessment as the key to everyday creativity in the classroom*. Bloomington, IN: Solution Tree Press

[free account required]

<https://www.solutiontree.com/free-resources/assessment/unlocked>

A good idea generation resource:

<http://www.mycoted.com/Category:CreativityTechniques>

Creativity testing resources:

<http://ststesting.com/2005gifttct.html>

Robert Epstein: Free online creativity tests

<http://MyCreativitySkills.com/>

Binder Clips [your answers on back]



Toothbrushing exercise: each time you brush your teeth, pick an object and come up with ideas for that object: brain writing, maximize, minimize, attribute list. Ten alternative uses for each.

Differents: Plan in advance and initiate your own DSD; Eat, Walk, Sleep, Give, Talk. Complete one per week.

Top Ten List:

1. **Believe in your own creativity.** Everyone is creative, and recognizing your own creativity helps you be more creative.
2. **Creativity and intelligence are dynamic and can be increased.** Neither is fixed at birth, and increasing either takes practice and conscious effort.
3. **Develop a habit of divergence;** do things that are different, more challenging, and unusual. As Mae West said: "When caught between two evils, I always like to try the one I've never tried before."
4. **Redefine the problem.** Or find it in the first place.
5. **Develop multiple answers to any problem;** at least ten. The only wrong answer is one answer. Provide as many answers as is possible and more than the number required.
6. **Have an ongoing broad exposure to other ideas** and areas and tolerate the ambiguity of other ideas. Change your environment, your social contacts, and change yourself.
7. **Sell your ideas.** Use that to advance your ideas.
8. **Persist through obstacles and mistakes;** take on challenges where success is not guaranteed.
9. **Specifically, allow time,** purposely daydream.
10. **Analyze your ideas and your thinking.**
11. **Figure out what you love and do it.** [see #6 anyway]

CPS: Examples from current classes, grads

<http://z.umn.edu/cpsDSDs>

<https://youtu.be/0-JaqqXbcw4> bookworm

<https://youtu.be/jPC4mQFGTh4> doorbell

https://youtu.be/rKR_tDWqTIs rain

Book: Find "Developing Creative Thinking Skills" on Amazon in paperback or Kindle.