

Cultivating Creativity in the Classroom

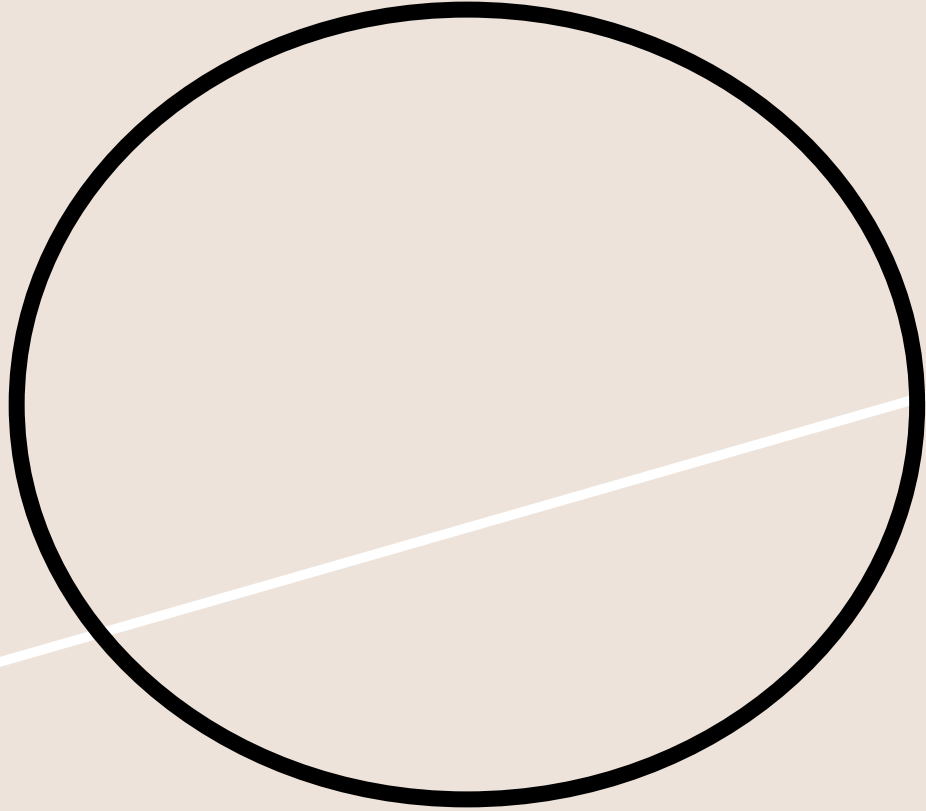
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Side by Side Strategies
ITEEA 2020 Conference
Baltimore, Maryland

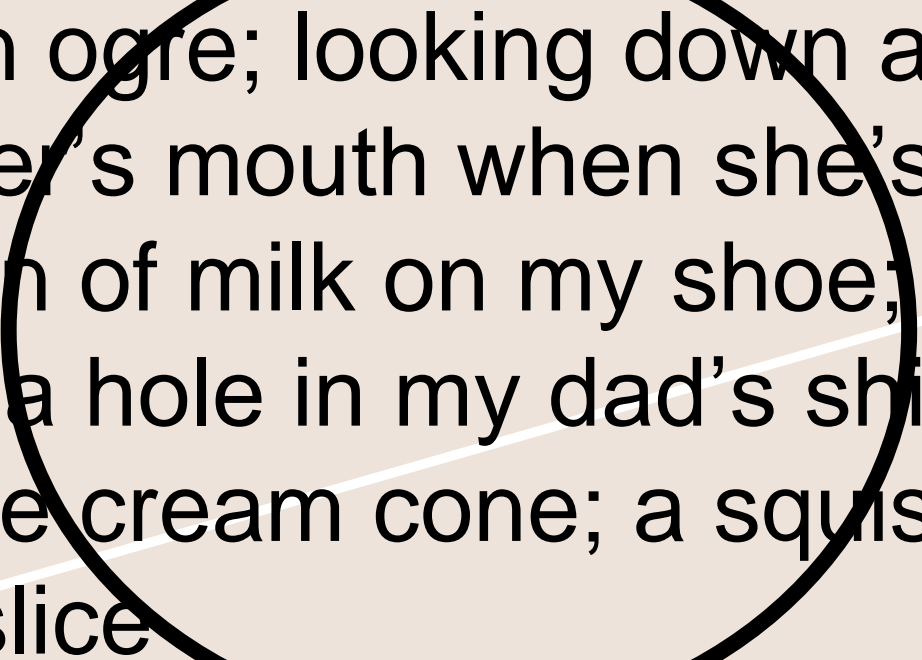
GALLERY WALK



Creativity

the ability to come up with ideas or artifacts that are new, surprising and valuable





Eye of an ogre; looking down a straw;
my mother's mouth when she's mad;
time; stain of milk on my shoe; a very
sad sun; a hole in my dad's shirt; a
melted ice cream cone; a squished
banana slice



On average,
98% of three
year olds have
a genius level
of creative
thinking.



Meet Mia
who is 5.

She uses about
80% of her
creative potential.



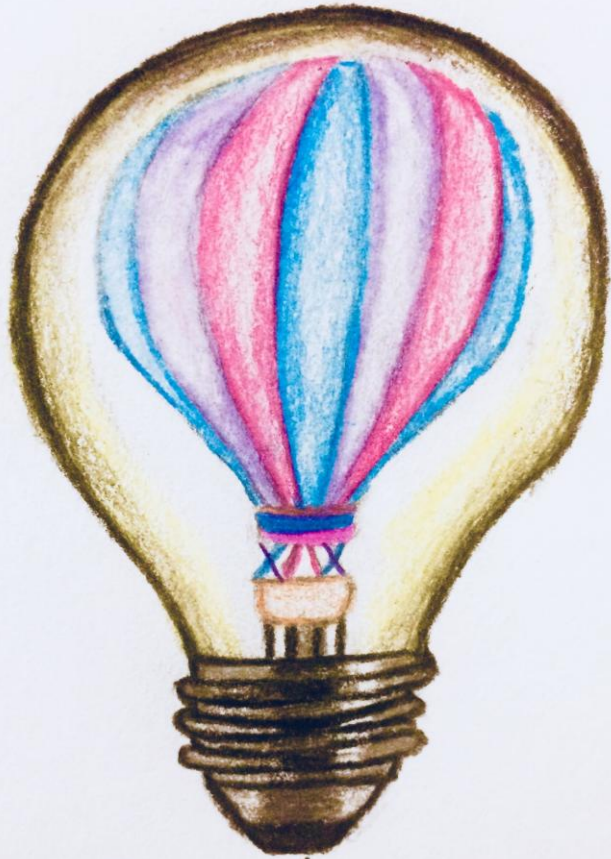
By age 12, our students' creative potential has declined to 2%.



Less than 2% of us retain genius level creative skills by the time we're 25.

The correlation between childhood creativity and adult accomplishment is 3X as strong as IQ and adult accomplishment.

~Paul Torrance



Creativity

We want our students to feel comfortable thinking outside of the box.

- How about a new creative challenge?
- Let's get in pairs.
- Get one bag of bricks per pair.

- Pour your bricks on the table.
- Each of you choose 10 bricks.
- Place the rest in the bag.

- Working together, build a tree.
- Use only the 20 bricks the two of you chose.
- You have 3 minutes.

- Time to share.
- Hold up your trees.
- Would you have chosen differently if you had known what you were going to build?

You used your brain!

emotional regulation
long-term memory
mental imagery
executive functioning
imitation
perspective-taking
self-efficacy
representation
spatial visualization
mental rotation
spatial abilities
short-term memory

self-regulation
attention
systems thinking
visual perception
cognitive flexibility
self-assessment
visual search
kinesthetic awareness
sensory-motor skills
working memory
fine motor skills
adaptive social function

“Play is the highest form of
research.”

~Albert Einstein

It's not enough for our students to be problem solvers; they must be problem finders that possess the skills needed to solve the complex problems they will face.

How will your classroom evolve toward cultivating more creativity in order to allow your students to develop into the problem solvers and problem finders of tomorrow? Take a few minutes and brainstorm at your table.

Everybody is a genius.

But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.



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