



17: The Power of Creativity

*A 7–12 Lesson on Thinking Differently, Expressing Yourself,
and Solving Problems with Imagination*



Introduction for the Facilitator

This lesson helps students unlock and apply **creativity**, which is the ability to think in original ways, explore new ideas, and express themselves with confidence. In school and life, creativity isn't just about art or music—it's about approaching challenges, communication, and possibilities with fresh perspective.

Creativity empowers students to be flexible thinkers, courageous contributors, and innovative problem-solvers. It also helps them discover their voice, embrace curiosity, and connect with others in meaningful ways.

This mindset becomes a vibrant part of their **personal competitive advantage**, helping them stand out in academics, leadership, and future careers. It supports the authentic, inspired **lifestyle** they want to live.

This lesson includes:

- **A Real-World Scenario that shows creativity in action**
- **8 Group Discussion Questions with follow-ups**
- **8 Journal Prompts (draw or write)**
- **10 Activities to develop and celebrate creative thinking**
- **A printable Worksheet to reflect on and grow their creativity**



Real-Life Scenario

Your school is running low on yearbook funds. The original plan? Cancel the printed version. But you and a few others get creative.

You pitch an online edition with videos. Add a QR code for a printable version. Invite art students to design it.

It's new. Bold. Different.

And it works.

That's creativity. It's not just about art. It's about solving problems, expressing ideas, and daring to try something original.



Group Discussion Questions

1. What does creativity mean to you?

Follow-up: How is it more than just being artistic or "talented"?

2. Why is creativity important in school, work, or life?

Follow-up: Where have you seen creativity solve a real problem?

3. What helps you feel more creative, and what shuts your creativity down?

Follow-up: How can we create more "idea-friendly" environments?

4. How does fear of judgment or failure affect creativity?

Follow-up: How can we push past that fear?

5. What's the difference between copying something and creating something?

Follow-up: How can we be inspired without losing our own voice?

6. Why is curiosity a big part of creativity?

Follow-up: What's something you've explored or learned just because you were curious?

7. How does creativity grow your personal competitive advantage?

Follow-up: Where might it give you an edge in school, business, or relationships?

8. What kind of lifestyle do you want to live?

Follow-up: How can creativity shape that lifestyle or make it more exciting?



Journal Prompts

(Students can write or draw their responses depending on learning style or preference.)

1. **Write or draw about a time you used creativity to solve a problem.**
2. **Describe a creative idea you've had but haven't tried yet. What's stopping you?**
3. **What's something you love to create, and how does it make you feel?**
4. **Sketch or describe your "Creative Zone." What inspires you and helps your ideas flow?**
5. **Write about a time when someone else's creativity amazed or inspired you.**
6. **What's one habit that helps you think more creatively? (Example: doodling, journaling, walking, etc.)**
7. **If you could invent something that solves a problem in your life or community, what would it be?**
8. **How can creativity help grow your personal competitive advantage?**



Activities

1. **Creativity Stations**
Set up small stations with prompts: invent something, write a six-word story, redesign a school supply, draw a solution to a real problem.
2. **"What If?" Brainstorming Wall**
Ask students to finish open-ended questions like "What if homework was optional?" or "What if schools were on the moon?" Encourage wild thinking.
3. **Reverse Engineering Challenge**
Show a final product (a video, campaign, or invention). Ask: "How do you think this was created?" Students guess and then reflect on the process.
4. **30 Circles Test**
Give students a page with 30 blank circles. In 3 minutes, fill in as many different, creative ideas as possible. Share and reflect.
5. **Creative Compliments**
Students write or illustrate unique compliments for classmates—not about looks, but creativity, effort, or unique traits.
6. **Redesign Something Routine**
Students pick a boring part of their day (e.g., the bell schedule or homework) and create a fun, efficient redesign.
7. **Two Truths and a "Not Yet"**
Students list two things they're confident creating and one creative skill they'd like to try or grow.
8. **Solve It Differently**
Give a simple problem and challenge students to come up with 3 completely different ways to solve it. Share ideas.
9. **Inspiration Jar**
Create a class jar of words, themes, or random objects. Students draw one and create something inspired by it.
10. **Creativity Shout-Outs**
Start a wall or board where students recognize each other's creative thinking, inventions, or solutions.



My Creative Growth Map

Name: _____

Helpful Words:

- **Creativity** = using my imagination to explore, solve, or express in original ways
- **Lifestyle Goal** = the kind of life I want to live
- **Personal Competitive Advantage** = the thinking and creating that helps me grow and stand out

Directions:

Use **writing or drawing** to explore your creative strengths and set a goal to grow.

Use the back of this sheet if you need more space.

1. Something creative I've done that I'm proud of is:

2. One area where I want to be more creative is:

3. Here's what helps me get into a creative flow:

4. My Creativity Superpower helps me do these things:

5. A creative idea I want to try soon is:

6. Creativity helps me grow my personal competitive advantage by:

7. This is how creativity supports the lifestyle I want to live: