

ADVANCED LEARNING LABS

Collaboration between NC Department of Public Instruction and AIG Teachers across the state

TO ENGAGE, ACTIVATE, AND GROW OUR STUDENTS

GRADES

6-7

Creativity



ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS

Imagine a year in which many strange and historical events take place. The year is 2020.

Write a narrative of real and/or imagined experiences that take place during this year. Engage your reader by establishing a context and introducing a narrator or character. Organize an event sequence that unfolds naturally and logically.

Include narrative techniques such as dialogue, pacing, and description to develop experiences, events, and/or characters. Seek guidance from peers or adults to strengthen the paper through revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.



SOCIAL STUDIES

During a historical event there may be ten eyewitness accounts. A historian has to comb through these accounts to determine which ones to include in written history. While historians can use creativity in how they present the information, it is important that all stories are shared in an unbiased way.

Think of a historical event that interests you and find primary documents about that event. Two excellent sources are the Library of Congress (www.loc.gov) and the National Archives (www.archives.gov).

Try to find multiple perspectives. What if one of the accounts was not true? How would that impact the writing of history? Compare and contrast the accounts in a chart. Below the chart state which information you feel confident adding to a social studies website for students.



SCIENCE

Earth stewardship means a responsibility to take care of the earth. There are many environmental challenges that must be overcome: water pollution, waste management, deforestation, urban sprawl, acid rain, and air pollution, to name a few.

Select one of these challenges and research proposed solutions. What is the most creative solution that has been proposed to the problem so far? One step in the creative problem-solving process is generating ideas (e.g., brainstorming).

Set a timer for ten minutes and brainstorm other possible solutions to this challenge. Do not worry about the expense or feasibility, just get the ideas down on paper or into a digital document. After you are finished, share your ideas with a friend or family member.



MINDFULNESS

If butterflies are thoughts, then notebooks are the nets. Journaling helps with creativity while documenting your thoughts. You do not have to use text to journal. It is okay to draw, doodle, make tables, or even leave blank space. Organize your journal with notes on one side and reflections on the other, or don't organize it at all. It is up to you. Journals do not need to be expensive. Decorate the front of your journal. Keep your journal close by so that you can jot down ideas whenever they come to you.

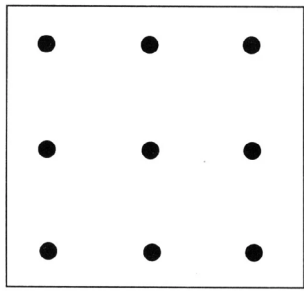
Set aside time each day to add to your journal. For the next two weeks, spend at least 15 minutes in your journal. You can write or draw anything you wish. If you need inspiration, try some of the prompts at this website: <https://bit.ly/39oIVtT>



LOGIC PUZZLE

Creative thinking is the key to some logic puzzles. The nine dot problem is one of those.

Mark through all nine dots using only four straight lines. You may not pick up your pencil.



For more puzzles and riddles which take creative solutions check out this video "16 Brain Teasers to Test Your Creativity:" <https://youtu.be/Q5On3Qzgu1c>



FIELD STUDIES

Fluency, flexibility, originality, and elaboration are considered the cornerstones of creative thinking.

- Fluency - the ability to generate numerous ideas
- Flexibility - stretching the way something is used
- Originality - creating a unique or novel idea
- Elaboration - building off already existing ideas to use in a new way

Every person or idea that is considered creative is not necessarily creative in each of these ways. Watch this TED Talk by Jack Andraka who describes the creative process he used as a teenager to develop a medical innovation: <https://youtu.be/g-ycQufrgK4>

What cornerstone(s) of creativity did he use?

Use at least one of these cornerstones of creativity in your daily life and reflect about it in your journal.



RESEARCH EXPLORATIONS

Why do we take notes? What is the best way to do so? Read the article from NPR to research the best way to take notes: <https://www.npr.org/2016/04/17/474525392/attention-students-put-your-laptops-away>

You may take notes by hand or on a computer. You may use Sketchnotes or Cornell style notes. Sketchnotes add creativity and visual interest to your notes. Watch the video to learn the basics of sketchnoting: <https://youtu.be/gY9KdRfNN9w>

Research the structures and life functions of single-celled organisms. Use sketchnotes to take notes in your science notebooks. Did you enjoy this technique? What were the pros and cons of sketchnoting?



MATH

Is Rock, Paper, Scissors a fair game? How do you know? What is the theoretical probability of winning the game? Play a game of Rock, Paper, Scissors with a friend. Be sure to collect data on who wins each round. Need a refresher on how to play? Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/cDwK-29meMI>

Instead of playing with a friend, you could try playing against the computer by following the directions here: <https://www.afiniti.com/corporate/rock-paper-scissors>

How did the theoretical probability of winning Rock, Paper, Scissors compare with the experimental probability of your game?



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PUBLIC INSTRUCTION



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K-12

Creativity Reference Guide

K-1 Logic Puzzle:

Solution 4 cubes high = 10

6 cubes high = 21

8 cubes high = 36

2-3 Logic Puzzle:

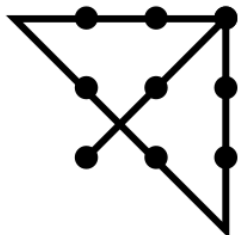
How to Create Your Own Sudoku: <http://www.sudokuessentials.com/create-sudoku.html>

4-5 Logic Puzzle:

Developing Your Own Logic Grid Puzzle:

<https://www.thesprucecrafts.com/how-to-make-solve-logic-puzzle-2809337>

6-7 Logic Puzzle:



8-9 Logic Puzzle:

Solution to Lateral Thinking puzzle: She was returning an overdue library book.

<https://puzzles9.com/18-challenging-lateral-thinking-questions-and-answers/>

10-12 Logic Puzzle:

Solution: start, finish, F, C, G, start, C, B, A, D, F, E, A, finish.

<https://www.mathsisfun.com/puzzles/path-plodding-puzzle-solution.html>

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Creativity NC Standards Alignment

Grade Span	English/ Language Arts	Social Studies	Science	Math
K-1	RL.1.4	1.H.1.3	1.E.2.1	NC.1.G.2
2-3	SL.3.5	3.E.2.1 3.I.1.10 3.E.1.1	3.P.1.1	NC.2.G.1
4-5	W.5.3	5.C&G.1.1 5.I.1.7 5.I.1.8 5.I.1.9 5.B.1.2	5.P.1.1	NC.4.MD.6
6-7	W.6.3	6.H.1.3	6.E.2.4	NC.7.SP.7
8-9	RL.8.7	8.H.3.2 8.H.3.3	EEn.2.2.2	NC.M2.A.SSE.1
10-12	W.11-12.3	USH.H.3.4 B.CX.1.3	Bio.2.2.2 ITSE 4a	NC.M3.A-APR.3