

Creative SPARKS!

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LESSON 2: WHAT IS CREATIVITY?

Creativity takes the process of imagination to another level. Sir Ken Robinson defines creativity as "the process of having original ideas that have value."

Have you ever thought of a way to make something better or thought of a way to solve a problem that no one else has thought of? Have you ever written a poem or song to express how you feel? If you could be a teacher for a day, do you know what you would do to make your classes more exciting for you and your friends? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you are a creative person!

Creativity is imagination applied ("imagination at work") to do or make something that flows from the prior capacity to conceive of the new.

Did you know you are a creative person? We are all creative and we all show our creativity in different ways. You do not have to be able to sing or draw a picture to be creative, you just need to use your imagination and find inspiration in the world around you.

Creativity is:

- A skill that everyone has.
- Used every day.
- Essential to have in the 21st century.
- The process of having an original thought or idea that can be put into action.
- Applied imagination.

Creativity is not:

- Something only a few people have.
- Just for the "arts" such as drawing, writing, or singing.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Think about your day from the time you wake up to the time you go to bed. Create a list of ways you are creative during the day, keeping in mind that creativity can be as simple as having a new idea or looking at something in a new way. When you have completed your list, talk about the ways you are creative with your classmates. Do you think you are a creative person? Why or why not? Has your understanding of creativity changed?
2. As a class, think of one thing in your school or community that you would like to change. Then, individually describe why the change you propose is important to the creative health of your school or community. Use any art form you choose to craft your message.
3. Research how others define creativity. After you have collected three different definitions, choose your favorite and in a short paragraph defend your choice.

To increase your capacity for creativity register now for the Oklahoma Creativity Forum 2011 at stateofcreativity.com.



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