

Love's Creative SPARKS!

All Our Futures: Ideas that Matter

Creativity, defined as the “generation of ideas that have value,” is a basic human capacity that we all possess. New, creative ideas are needed to resolve some of our most pressing societal issues. Creative Oklahoma is challenging Oklahoma students of all ages to offer their ideas for solutions to problems they see within their classrooms, schools, and community environments. The students with ideas that are determined to be the most innovative will receive cash awards, the **Creative SPARKS!** awards, that will serve as seed funds to implement their ideas. In these four lessons, classroom activities will be suggested allowing students to use collaboration, critical thinking, creativity, and communication to move from idea to implementation.

LESSON 1: COLLABORATION

To collaborate is to demonstrate the ability to work effectively and respectfully with peers while exercising flexibility and willingness to be helpful including making necessary compromises to accomplish a common goal.

Lesson One will focus on working as a group through a creative problem solving exercise focusing on an improvement to the future of your classroom. Subsequent lessons will allow students to branch into their own ideas that matter on how to improve not only their classroom, but their school and even community.

ACTIVITIES:

1. As a whole class, create a list of issues in your classroom that you would like to see changed, improved, or done differently, and why.
2. With the whole group, brainstorm questions concerning the issues you identified.
3. Form small groups to collaborate on selected issues from the list. Talk about how you would answer the brainstormed questions. Do you need to research a topic to do this? Record the discussions using a digital recorder or just taking written notes or drawing to help you remember the discussion.
4. Review the recorded conversation as a group and make note of significant responses, questions, and insights shared.
5. Using your reflections, brainstorm at least three solutions that might solve your assigned issue.
6. Create an interesting way to share your solution ideas with the class.

Look for Lesson 2 on February 11, 2015.

Newspapers for this program provided by:



Oklahoma's future begins in the classroom.

