

Love's Creative SPARKS!

All Our Futures: Ideas that Matter

The Love's Creative SPARKS contest asks the student to think of new creative ideas that will help resolve some of the most pressing societal issues as well as things within their classroom and schools that could be changed for the better. **Lesson 1** asked students to use collaboration to create solutions to things in the classroom that could be changed, improved or done differently. Now in this **second** of four lessons teachers and students will explore using critical thinking skills to identify problems in their classrooms, schools and community environments which may have impact on *all our futures*.

LESSON 2: CRITICAL THINKING

To think critically is to make reasoned judgments that are logical and well thought out.

Lesson Two will focus on working individually or in small groups to identify a problem on which to focus for the remainder of the lessons. Now the focus of the problem can be broader than just our classroom and collaboration skills learned in lesson one will be available as we need them.

ACTIVITIES:

1. Silently brainstorm a list of issues in your school or community that really matter to you.
2. With a partner, take turns sharing your list and talking about why each item on your list is important to you. When it is your turn to listen, note questions that you want to ask.
3. Now take turns asking those questions, and listening for the ideas your partner seems to care about most. Focus on being a great listener.
4. Time to talk. Share your observations with your partner. Which problem on their list did they talk about most, have the most to say about?
5. Reflect on this experience. Thinking of these problems and the ones from Lesson One, which problem do you want to research and solve to improve *our future*?
6. What reading or online searches would help you in working on your chosen problem in Lesson Three?

Look for Lesson 3 on February 18, 2015.

Newspapers for this program provided by:



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