

BRAINSTORMING and CREATIVE THINKING

FREE Curriculum from the Duct Tape Guys

The Duct Tape Guys are pleased to provide this Brainstorming and Creative Thinking Curriculum to educators absolutely FREE of charge. Feel free to copy this page for use in creating your own creative geniuses! Of course, purchasing our books for your classroom would greatly enhance this curriculum! You can purchase the books online at www.DuctTapeGuys.com.

THE RULES FOR BRAINSTORMING

NO CRITICISM! During brainstorming, all ideas should be accepted and recorded. No idea should be seen as too impossible, too inappropriate, too silly... too anything!

FREE WHEELIN' THINKIN' Brainstormers should be encouraged to think of bizarre, off-the-wall, even seemingly impractical ideas. Since everything is accepted, anything goes!

QUANTITY VS. QUALITY One of the purposes of brainstorming is to generate MANY ideas. Though you may come up with many unusable ideas, you will undoubtedly arrive at many very good ones. Quality comes with quantity. "It takes a LOT of ideas to get a GOOD idea."

PRACTICE PIGGYBACKING Piggybacking (or hitchhiking) is the practice of improving another's idea, or of combining ideas. Often someone else's idea may trigger an idea by another person in the group. Brainstorming is a Team Sport!

SCAMPER! Use the "SCAMPER" technique to assist your creativity:

S: Substitute **C:** Combine **A:** Adapt **M:** Modify **P:** Put to Other Uses **E:** Eliminate **R:** Rearrange

SUGGESTED CLASS ACTIVITIES

BRAINSTORMING SESSION

List the Brainstorming Rules (above) and explain each rule. Brainstorm using one or more of these ideas (as a large group):

- 1) List uses for a 400 lb. squash.
- 2) What if we never slept?
- 3) List uses for a fifty foot rope and a brick.
- 4) List things that start things.

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DUCT TAPE BRAINSTORMING

Individually, in small groups, or in a large group, do one of these activities:

Rewrite a fairy tale based on duct tape.

Make a duct tape invention (create a prop or drawing).

Present your invention to the class.

Make a newspaper ad, or a radio or TV commercial advertising your duct tape invention.

Write and illustrate your own Duct Tape Book (list wacky and real uses for Duct Tape). Bind it with duct tape!

Write and perform a campaign speech convincing people to vote for duct tape as the "Ultimate Tool."

CHECK OUT WHAT OTHER PEOPLE ARE DOING WITH DUCT TAPE

At our web site (www.DuctTapeGuys.com) you'll find excerpts from The Duct Tape Book(s), Stump the Duct Tape Guys, The Duct Tape Diner (where people share their uses), Medical, Automotive and Fashion applications, and a whole lot more!

WHAT BECAME OF ADHESIVE TAPE?

Go to your local hardware store and find a roll of plain masking tape (invented in the 1920's). Now, look around you and find all of the other types of tape and tape-related products (like tape holders) that have sprung from this one invention.

MATH AND DUCT TAPE How many rolls of duct tape would it take to go around the equator; to the moon; etc.?
(there are various size rolls – a common size is the 20-yard roll)

A STICKY PROBLEM: WHAT IF THERE WAS NO ADHESIVE? Duct tape requires adhesive (glue) to work - otherwise it would just be a strip of plastic. Are there adhesives in nature? Make a list of all the things in our world that require adhesives (tapes, glues, paints, etc.). What would our world be like without adhesives? What would change?

KEEP ON BRAINSTORMING, DUDES!

What could you do with a fifty foot wide roll of duct tape?

How many uses can you find for the cardboard duct tape core?

Duct tape comes in colors now, too. List some creative uses of colored duct tape.

How many different words can you make using these letters? **D U C T T A P E P R O**

Show how you can fix _____ with duct tape. (fill in any problem or situation and brainstorm to solve it)