

## LEARNING UNIT: CREATIVITY TEACHING - CREATIVITY

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### **EntreComp Competence Framework: Creativity**

This lesson helps develop creativity and stimulate literary creativity.

### **Introduction**

In teaching creativity, the basic value orientation is to cultivate people's creative spirit and innovative ability. Its core is to focus on researching and solving the problem of how to cultivate the innovative consciousness, innovative spirit and innovative ability of secondary school students in the field of basic education.

It's easy to say, "be creative" ... "innovate!" But how do we do that?

We can encourage innovation and creativity in our students by changing their points of view about what it means to be creative. We can think about creativity as an art, and we can think about creativity as a problem-solving. The root word of creativity is to create.

It's about connecting ideas in different ways to create something new.

This can be creating something new for us personally, or it can be something new that the world has never seen before.

We solve problems in the arts: How can we connect ideas together to create a new twist in an art assignment, a dance, a dramatic production, or creative writing? We also use a lot of creativity in problem-solving everyday life challenges. In fact, we use a lot of creativity in Social-Emotional Learning.

Here are three ways creativity and social-emotional learning go hand-in-hand:

- Self-management includes the ability to manage one's emotions. When things get tough, sometimes, we need to create new ways to deal with our emotions. (Instead of just hiding them from the world.)
- Self-awareness is the ability to understand your emotions, thoughts, and values. Linking our feelings, values, thoughts, and experiences is exactly what we do when we're creative and connecting new ideas and experiences in ways we haven't thought of before.
- Relationship skills are the ability to establish and maintain healthy relationships. Relationships require work – especially when you have different points of view



about things that personally matter. We need to be creative in solving problems and dealing with conflict constructively.

We can use fun creativity lesson to help teach innovation and prepare students for unknown daily situations.

We think about creativity this way:

- Creativity is about creating / making new things
- We get creative when we solve problems every day.
- We find solutions to obstacles all the time.

What do you do when...

- life gives you a pandemic and you have a new normal?
- things are constantly changing between teaching in the classroom, physical distancing, and online distance learning?
- you lose your job and need to figure out how to make a living?
- the world is unfair, and you need to change the system?
- you need to do a class project and the teacher tells you to come up with an original idea.

There are several conditions for stimulating literary creativity. One condition is systematic work over several months, and another is a supportive general situation, motivation and interest on the students' part, a creative teacher, enough time and space, and open and relaxed relationships. With creativity lesson we can improve and stimulate higher levels of knowledge (synthesis-composing, combining the essential into a new whole, valuation-identifying, finding the quality, value, meaning, quality of something).

### **Bibliography and webliography**

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Creativity and Education, Robina Shaheen, Creative Education Vol.1 No.3, December 27, 2010, DOI: 10.4236/ce.2010.13026

Advances in Creative Education, The Editorial Board of Academic Archives Scientific Research Publishing, June 8, 2022

Creativity in the classroom (in 5 minutes or less!), Catherine Thimmesh,

TEDxUniversityofStThomas, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nASvlgSOCxw>

### **Purpose and recipients**

Creativity encourages the ability to think divergently - open-mindedly. With open thinking we achieve (according to Guilford) fluency of language - we are more fluent in words and ideas and in expression - we can communicate more easily and come up with new ideas; we are more flexible - we are more adaptable and spontaneous; we are more original - we can come up with original solutions, we can be more humorous; and we can articulate our ideas and thoughts better.

The Learning Unit aims to teach future students innovation and creativity by explicitly giving students a process and fostering a growth mindset.

Learning Unit is useful for several teaching environments (VET; professional training, public schools, a special education programme, life-long learning, learning for adults with intellectual disabilities). Learning Unit is aimed at different grade levels, but it is the teacher who adapts the work to the target group.

### **Learning outcomes**

Students develop all four factors of divergent thinking.

Pupils develop a greater vocabulary. They develop intellectual qualities: playing with concepts, reading, comprehension, reconstruction, improvisation, questioning, independence, reflexivity, ability to combine words in an original way. In practice, we also conclude that pupils develop personal qualities: perseverance, cheerfulness, humour, sociability, independence, tolerance, enthusiasm, curiosity, etc.

Learners/students develop reading fluency, reading understanding, the ability to read critically, to respond to texts and to produce texts.

### **Description of teaching and learning activities**

The learning mediator introduces the general concept of creative thinking, underlining why it is important in any profession and in daily life to be creative.

We motivate and prepare students for original thinking, a process that needs a lot of encouragement and a relaxed atmosphere so that students can achieve the mental flow to create. It is important not to judge or over-direct pupils' creative and original work. We leave it to the pupils to search and find the message of the lesson. We encourage the ability to experience, interpret and understand the text.

The learners are then engaged in the Practical Activity:

“Create a story”: learners test and experience how to create a good story with unplanned twists.

### **Supporting resources**

When creating a learning unit focused on fostering literary creativity and aiming to provide practical guidance for teachers, utilizing videos that showcase real-world applications and practical approaches can be highly beneficial. Here are some video recommendations that offer practical insights into teaching creativity in reading literacy:

**TED-Ed - "The Benefits of a Bilingual Brain"**

**Link: The Benefits of a Bilingual Brain,**

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MMmOLN5zBLY>**

**Description: This TED-Ed video explores the cognitive benefits of bilingualism and how it can enhance creativity and cognitive flexibility, which can be applied to language and literacy learning.**

**Edutopia - "Creativity in the Classroom"**

**Link: Creativity in the Classroom, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iG9CE55wbtY>**

**Description: Edutopia's video offers practical tips and examples of how educators can infuse creativity into everyday teaching, including strategies applicable to reading literacy.**

**TeachingChannel - "Using Creative Assignments to Teach Reading"**

**Link: Using Creative Assignments to Teach Reading,**

**[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLH\\_eEMo94o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LLH_eEMo94o)**

**Description: This video demonstrates how teachers can use creative assignments to enhance reading comprehension and literacy skills by engaging students in imaginative and artistic activities.**

**Teacher Toolkit - "Teaching Reading Strategies Through Creative Arts"**



Link: Teaching Reading Strategies Through Creative Arts,

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I\\_yuL\\_3ajkw](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I_yuL_3ajkw)

Description: The video showcases how teachers can use creative arts like drama and storytelling to enhance reading strategies and literacy development in the classroom.

Reading Rockets - "Connecting Creativity and Literacy"

Link: Connecting Creativity and Literacy,

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pleFBAAv6hY>

Description: In this video, experts discuss how creativity and literacy are interconnected and provide insights on fostering creativity in the context of reading and language arts.

These videos offer practical examples and strategies for incorporating creativity into reading literacy instruction, enabling teachers to effectively encourage and nurture literary creativity in their students.

**Duration:** 1h

**Competence level:**

Level 2	Basic factual knowledge of a field of work or study	basic cognitive and practical skills required to use relevant information in order to carry out tasks and to solve routine problems using simple rules and tools	work or study under supervision with some autonomy	(UK) GCSE Grades D-G, RQF Level 1 Scottish Intermediate 1; <sup>[2]</sup> (Finland) Lower secondary school
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— Level 1 - learning outcomes

Knowledge	Skills	Responsibility and autonomy
Basic general knowledge	Basic skills required to carry out simple tasks	Work or study under direct supervision in a structured context



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