



## Approaching the curriculum creatively

The following workshop enables educators to capture the voices of learners, ensuring that the responses are entirely their own. The aim is for the learners to enjoy being creative, and to generate a list of “Imagine If...” statements that can be used to inform your own planning and improvement. Some ideas will be simplistic, some will be fantastical or funny, some will be dramatic, and some will be fascinating and surprising. Whatever the responses, they are guaranteed to be honest, enlightening and useful.

Using post-it notes or pieces of paper, learners are asked to create simple single sentences in response to each of the Imagine If... prompts. The workshop includes two warm-up creativity exercises, to ensure they are firing on all cylinders.

1. Creativity Skills Warm-up – Creativity Toybox #10 - *How Many Ways to Catch A Bear*
2. Imagine if... you were the King of schools and you could change everything and anything you wanted – what would it be like? – create your own statement that begins with the words “Imagine If...” A raw response.
3. Creativity Skills Warm-up – Creativity Toybox #9 – *Not a Bin*
4. What is the best moment of school or learning you have ever had? When were you happiest? – create your own statement that begins with the words “Imagine If...”, something to make sure that this moment happens more of the time or even, all of the time.
5. What is the worst moment of school or learning you ever had? When were you unhappiest? What do you hate doing? – create your own statement that begins with the words “Imagine If...” to ensure that this thing never happens again. **Note that this one should be done privately and the statements pooled anonymously to allow learners to share freely.**
6. Imagine if... there were no schools, no teachers. Imagine they had never been invented. How would you learn the things you need to learn to get a job and to have a great life? – create your own statement that begins with the words “Imagine If...”

The creativity skills warm-up exercises can be found on Education Scotland's Youtube channel, and on Glow, and can be screened on a computer or whiteboard. Alternatively, you can print the instructions and share the activity yourself.

### **Creativity Toybox #9 – Not a Bin**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JXDvOEbWZ4w&list=PLcD2TdZ4bXSndF\\_-wQ8m06udBhzH-NqKO&index=10](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JXDvOEbWZ4w&list=PLcD2TdZ4bXSndF_-wQ8m06udBhzH-NqKO&index=10)

Take an object from the room, a bin, a chair, anything commonplace and not too small. Challenge the group to individually, or in pairs, come up with as many uses for the object as they can think of. Imagine the bin is anything else, except a bin. Give the group five minutes to write as many down as they can.

### **Creativity Toybox #10 – How Many Ways To Catch A Bear**

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rp6g7MaU2Mg&index=11&list=PLcD2TdZ4bXSndF\\_-wQ8m06udBhzH-NqKO](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rp6g7MaU2Mg&index=11&list=PLcD2TdZ4bXSndF_-wQ8m06udBhzH-NqKO)

We need to catch a bear. Your task is to come up with as many different ways of catching a bear as possible. Give the group five minutes to write as many down as they can. Half way through you may wish to ask the group to consider what kind of bear it is? This may give them a way of re-thinking the challenge.

If you cannot access the films on Youtube then you can find them in Glow using this link:

[https://glowscotland.sharepoint.com/portals/hub/\\_layouts/15/pointpublishing.aspx?app=video&p=s&k=nihctx](https://glowscotland.sharepoint.com/portals/hub/_layouts/15/pointpublishing.aspx?app=video&p=s&k=nihctx)