

# Creativity (Grades K-2)

## For PurposeFull Families



### EXPLANATION:

This month we are talking about Creativity! Creativity is more than just making things or creating art - it is about exercising our imagination to help make the world better!

**Creativity:** Using your imagination to create something or solve a problem.

One of the best things about being a human being is our ability to imagine! We get this cool part of our brain that allows to not just think about survival, but also about sparkly space pigeons or colorful caterpillars or a cardboard box that is secretly a rocket ship. At this young age, kids regularly use their Creativity to entertain themselves (and us!) with all the wacky and wonderful ways they view the world. Let's make sure they never lose that curiosity! It is that same imagination that makes a sandbox into the moon that is capable of imagining the world's problems as opportunities for new, bold, innovative solutions. This month, we will be talking about and practicing solving problems, working in teams, and dreaming up new perspectives! The only way we change the negative normals in our world is to have the Courage and Creativity to think different!

### CONVERSATION STARTERS:

- Xavier is having a hard time coming up with an idea for his Science Fair project when his Dad tells him to get creative. After he tries and tries, Xavier starts to think that he's not the creative type. What would you tell Xavier if he told you that?
- Sometimes, when we are being creative, we can get frustrated if things do not go as planned. What strategies can you use if you begin to feel frustrated? How can you help someone else if you notice them getting frustrated?
- What inspires you as an adult? Share with your child music, art, books, or other media that speaks to you and why.

### QUESTIONS YOU COULD ASK:

- What do you think it means to think "outside of the box?" What's something you've thought about that might be "outside the box?"
- What does Creativity mean to you? Is Creativity a good thing? How can you become more creative?
- Who is someone Creative in our family or community? How do they show Creativity?

### APPLICATION:

#### Books:

- [\*Happy Dreamer\*](#) by Peter H. Reynolds
- [\*Where's Your Creativity?\*](#) by Aaron Rosen
- [\*Beautiful Oops\*](#) by Barney Saltzberg
- [\*Because\*](#) by Mo Willems
- [\*Remarkably YOU\*](#) by Pat Zietlow Miller
- [\*The Most Magnificent Thing\*](#) by Ashley Spires

### FOR YOUR READING:

- [\*10 Secrets to Raising Creative Kids\*](#) by Jennifer King Lindley
- [\*How To Encourage Creativity In Our Children\*](#) via The Parenting Junkie Blog

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PurposeFULL  
People

### ACTIVITY:

**Coloring Outside the Lines:** Get out a coloring book (or make your own with shapes and outlines) and then, a few times over the course of the month, take it out and color outside of the lines. Let loose; no boundaries. Then discuss with one another how it felt.

### PURPOSEFULL PURSUITS:

#### Wheelie-Fun Olympics

Invite a few family friends to bring their bikes, roller skates, roller blades, scooters, and prepare to have a wheelie-good time outside in a friendly competition, Olympic-style. Set up an obstacle course or short sprints; get those creative juices flowing as you plan together. If not on your street, see if you can host the outing after hours in your school parking lot or at a local park.

Not good on wheels? Try taking a piece of athletic equipment and reimagining it to change the game. What does basketball look like if you can't move when you are holding the ball? How do you play soccer with a round field and 4 goals?

**Toughness:** 3

**Time:** 3

**Type:** Group

#### Get Curious

In this challenge, identify a toy that the children in the family are no longer playing or engaged with. Start with the question: How do you think this toy was made? Then tell them that together we are going to take it apart, to see how it's made before reassembling it. Before disassembling it, invite them to make some predictions: How many parts do you think it has? How easy or difficult will taking it apart and putting it back together be? What might it feel like to be a Toy Maker?

**Toughness:** 1

**Time:** 2

**Type:** Group

#### Family Scrapbook

As a family, discuss some of your favorite memories. Then, have each family member capture their favorite moments in their own way; they might draw, paint, chalk, build, act, or sing the moment. Be sure to record and hold onto the memories for the future!

Better yet, put your work together in a book or in a shared folder on a phone or computer and, over the course of the year, add to it slowly. Make a date once a year to review it as a family!

**Toughness:** 2

**Time:** 2

**Type:** Group

#### Build it with a Box

Find a large cardboard box and unleash your inner child as you work together with your family to create something new! What can the box become? Perhaps it will be a spaceship, an ice cream shop, a fairy castle, or a race car. Using craft supplies, work together to use Creativity to turn the box into a new creation.

**Bonus:** [Not a Box](#) by Antoinette Portis would be a fun, family read prior to this activity!

**Toughness:** 1

**Time:** 2

**Type:** Group