

Measuring What Matters

Creativity

The domain

Creativity is a process that involves generating novel ideas and products, using one's imagination, being inquisitive, and persisting when difficulties arise. The process includes collaborating with others and being able to evaluate creative products, ideas, and processes dispassionately. Creative competencies and skills are vital for problem solving and for developing ways of adapting knowledge to new contexts.

Why it matters

In a knowledge economy, and times of rapid change, we need people with the creative capacity to adapt knowledge to new contexts, generate new ideas, and use innovative approaches to problem-solving. Fostering creativity helps students develop resilience, resourcefulness, and confidence, and is positively linked to engagement, achievement, and innovation.

Creativity competencies

Imagination

- Students make connections across disciplines and between objects and ideas.
- Students use intuition.
- Students work with objects and ideas without an end goal in mind.
- Students generate a range of novel ideas in relation to personal knowledge and learning context.
- Students apply metaphorical thinking.

Inquisitiveness

- Students articulate potential problems to solve in relation to ambiguous or complex phenomena.
- Students seek new resources to answer emerging questions.
- Students explore initial ideas more deeply.
- Students challenge assumptions.
- Students integrate different sets of discipline knowledge or skills to solve problems.

Collaboration

- Students empathize with others through careful observation and open-ended questioning.
- Students share information and ideas.
- Students integrate ideas and feedback offered by others.
- Students ask for evaluative input from teachers and peers.
- Students seek assistance.

Discipline

- Students objectively assess the strengths and weaknesses of creative ideas, work or products.
- Students critically reflect on the outcomes of the work.
- Students refine and improve work.

Persistence

- Students explore ambiguous and complex phenomena.
- Students take paths or approaches different from their peers or teachers.
- Students defend solutions and break conventions.