Ten Tips to Develop Your Creativity

1. **Focus on your strengths.** Pay attention to your strengths and interests; this is where it is easiest to tap your creativity.

2. **Learn to think freely to generate a big list of ideas when faced with a challenge.** This is known as divergent thinking.

3. **Learn to organize and structure those ideas to come to a solution that works.** This is known as convergent thinking.

4. **Develop confidence in your own creativity.** Train your brain with habits, thoughts, action and speech to develop a sense that you can master challenges.

5. **Be persistent; creativity is about process.** How you get there is as important as where you go. The patience and ability to work through a series of steps to figure things out is the foundation of a creative life.

6. **Be intentional about screen time to limit distractions.** Brain development is use-dependent; what we pay attention to is what grows in our life.

7. **Collaborate—it allows you to make up for your weaknesses and offer your strengths.** The power of collaboration is that it is always greater than the sum of its parts.

8. **Surround yourself with role models** This includes not only creative people but activities.

9. **Pay attention.** See the world with the wonder of a child and the care of a scientist. See the things around you with a fresh awareness.

10. **Absence of judgment.** This is learning to silence the voice in your head that filters your ideas before they get out.

“The true sign of intelligence is not knowledge but imagination.”- Albert Einstein

At the heart of any successful learning environment lie the seeds of endless creativity.

Imagination is the ability to independently form mental pictures. It is like a muscle; the more it is used, the more powerful and efficient it will become.

Creativity is applied imagination.

Problem solving that requires the ability to:

1. Come up with a new idea.
2. Break down the idea into steps that will bring it into existence.
3. Persevere in the face of frustration.

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