

CharacterPlus®

"character goes the distance"

THE CHARACTER SERIES



cre·a·tiv·ity

noun. the use of the imagination or original ideas. the act of turning new and imaginative ideas into reality.

A Poem About Creativity

Good ideas will take you places.
Sometimes I just like to think,
And capture my ideas in ink.
When the pen begins to flow,
I leave my thoughts and let them go.
It's when the mind starts to run free,
That we really do begin to see.
Our eyes are somehow opened wide,
And we are given a peek inside.
We see the place where ideas grow,
The ones with passion we must sow.
Big ideas can give us power,
They bloom and grow just like a flower.
Tricky problems simply pop,
As great ideas take you to the top.
Don't keep them locked up in dark spaces,
Good ideas will take you places.

-Debra Lynne Langley



ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES

We would love to see how you do these with your family!

Tag us on Facebook or Twitter @characterplus

**Since our theme is creativity, we thought we'd
organize this week's resource
a bit differently.**



Start here with [this video about expanding our idea of creativity](#).

Great! Now here's a list of ideas to try, and different ways to think about, living a creative life.



1. [WeBeSchools](#) is a set of modules for middle school students that puts them right in the middle of a hypothetical dilemma. It is created with animation, voices, and visuals that speak directly to youth, giving them the chance to practice making a tough decision that tests their values. Because research also shows that learning is more powerful when critical thinking is supplemented by creative expression, words and images that populate the interactive ArtEngine empower every student to express and share their values. Check it out!

2. Remember how much fun [doodle art](#) is? This could be a large, ongoing project, or something done at one sitting, but it's both creative and relaxing!

3. For a fantastic look at having a creative mindset at home during the pandemic, British art teacher Andria Zafirakou, the 2018 Global Teacher Prize winner, offers [7 practical tips to live creatively](#). She also encourages parents not to worry over lost academic time, and stresses that being creative is healthy for developing minds!

4. Taking the time to free draw or color or paint is wonderful, but sometimes, kids just want to color! If older kids or adults would like to color something a bit more challenging alongside younger family members, downloading coloring sheets [like this one](#) from Crayola are a great way to do so.

5. Riddles can be fun for the whole family! They challenge out-of-the-box thinking. Here are two websites with riddles you can try: [50 Riddles and Brainteasers for Kids and Teens](#) and or [25 of the Best Riddles for Kids](#)



6. For many people, writing is a favorite creative outlet. This list of [64 Creative Journal Prompts](#) is primarily for middle school through adult, but many could be used by elementary students, as well! It includes ideas like current five favorite things, collect your favorite quotes, and paste in a found photograph or picture of people from a magazine and write a fictional story about the people in the photo.

7. Hear one man's story about how [his focus on creativity](#) helped save him from a difficult childhood and set him on a path to success as an illustrator, animator, and entrepreneur. Kyle Kesterson says, "Creativity doesn't start with a finished product; it starts with that twinkle in your eye...creativity is something that all of us have, and it's within reach, every day."

8. KOA Campgrounds put together [a gigantic list of things to keep you occupied](#) while in the midst of the pandemic. These are intended to help spark creativity and keep kids busy!