What would happen if…15 Questions for Creativity

by Alissa Marquess on April 25, 2012

people write to me, saying, “I’m not creative.” In fact, I have received this comment often enough that I’ve realized that it’s time to let you in on a little secret: that’s not possible. When you state that you are not creative, you are flat out wrong.

If there is one sure way to dampen creative thought in your children, it is to let them hear you say this about yourself, and I know my readers are interested in growing creative kids.

Creativity is about finding novel answers to a problem.

Creativity refers to the phenomenon whereby a person creates something new (a product, solution, artwork, literary work, joke, etc.) that has some kind of value. Source

Have you ever come up with a unique solution to {something in your life}? Hooray! You ARE creative! But if you don’t FEEL creative, you might just need a little practice.
We each are born with a seed inside that wants to grow. It is the seed of creativity. And it is watered by questions. Just to get you going I am going to give you my favorite question:

**I wonder what would happen if…?**

This is a particularly useful question when it comes to creating with kids. It is a question that invites play and experimentation. Use it often and explore the answer with your child.

15 “I Wonder What Would Happen If” Questions:
I wonder what would happen if:

- We add water to this?
- We take this outside?
- We take turns doing this?
- I stop talking?
- I ask my child where I should put this?
- I get out my own paper and give this a try?
- We mix THIS with THAT?
- We took a little break and came back to this later?
- I just let my kid do this all wrong?
- I turn on music while we do this?
- I set out this other art supply near my child?
- I only set out two colors?
- We glue something to this?
- I simply say, “Oh?” and let my child talk about it.
- We don’t do this the way the directions say we should? (Will the police show up?)

Creating naturally involves scary feelings as we try things we don’t know. If you can take on a feeling of curiosity, it can help you move through the scary feelings and allow you to try something new. You don’t have to take on something completely wildly unfamiliar - the first step in creativity is allowing yourself to experiment just outside your current comfort zone. The more practice you get at this, the stronger your creativity will grow, and eventually you will easily be able to say a big fat “YES, I AM CREATIVE!”

I know it’s true, and by the way, if you ever find yourself feeling non-creative after looking at Pinterest I have an important message for you too.

To spark your creative ideas we have a linky on Wednesday for kids crafts. I hope you find something exciting to try this week!
Join the Kids Get Crafty linky party! Each week Creative with Kids and Red Ted Art host this kids craft linky, bringing you more readers and more ideas to browse!

Disclaimer: By joining the Kids Get Crafty linky you give us permission to highlight any projects on Red Ted Art and Creative with Kids or share your craft ideas on Pinterest – we will always link to your site!

If you have been crafty with your kid’s be it at home, in the kitchen or outdoors, please link up! A link back here will make me grin, and of course, go see what others have been up to and let them know you stopped by from Kids Get Crafty!
1. 3 Activities for The Rainbow Fish
2. Turn party hats into princess hats
3. Flower Collage
4. Glittery paper-mache Earth Hanging
5. Fun with F
6. Earth Pom Poms
7. Egg Carton Sea Creatures
8. Gingerbread Men
9. Viscosity Races - Science Sparks
10. Playdough coffee shop
11. Handprint dragon
12. Socks cakes
13. Bunting made from an old children’s book
14. Flat Planet Earth done in tissue paper
15. 50 Ideas & Pics to Enjoy Nature with Kids
16. Chocolate Dipping Spoons
17. Life Skills Painting
18. Kids & Money - All Ages
19. Road Trips with Little Ones & Games
20. Painting with DUPLO

What would happen if… 15 Questions for Creativity
http://creativewithkids.com/what-would-happen-if-tips-about-creating
This linky list is now closed.

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Tagged as: Crafting tips, encouraging creativity

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Jen Fischer April 25, 2012 at 3:45 pm

My favorite is – if I let my kids do it all wrong because I find that my toddler almost never does it the way I think – he loves to mix it up, and I love encouraging his creativity and seeing where it goes. Encouraging creativity is also a big reason we don’t buy many toys. I find that the toddler and the baby create toys out of everyday objects, which I love. (Helpful since we have a small house).

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Ali May 1, 2012 at 3:32 am

I love your post and your list of questions. Kids are experts at ‘what would happen if…’ I need to try it myself more.

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