



## CE Joan XXIII school, L'Hospitalet. Catalonia-SPAIN

### How to work creativity in the classroom

The most important is that the students get **free from their fears and shames** if they do not know how to draw, paint, act, dance, etc., from the very first day.

One aim in **Art classes** is to “show what is inside of the student”. Therefore involves creating a relaxed environment, for instance listening to music, which increases their interest for the topic. As we are all not the same, we have different experiences to communicate. To express them, everybody have to look inside their own. The students also need to know the artist vocabulary, so they have to get the basis of it.

Another way to encourage creativity is the use of the “**lateral thinking**” for instance to solve problems of **Geometry or Mathematics**. Lateral thinking is very creative as it takes different ways and alternatives to get a solution, different to the logical thinking, which is unidirectional.

### Some ideas and activities about creativity in the classroom

Students must be in silence during the class or listening to some quite music. They have to **represent the silence and the music** in images using some coloured papers. They are free to cut, paint, glue, etc. in a figurative or abstract way to show their artistic capacity.

Students **become designers**. They first agree what to do: one publicity advertisement, an object, etc. They may decide to draw an imaginary chair. They all draw it and then they check that most of chairs are different.

Students **play drama**. With no script at all, they think of a situation, then they create the characters who will improvise what to say and will show their emotions. They can use the “hot seat” drama techniques.

Students **create choreography**. They can create dance following original steps according with the music they listen to. It is an activity that they can essay in **Physical Education** classes.

Students can use the lateral thinking through Maths exercises, like for instance: different alternatives **to divide a geometric figure**. For instance divide into four equal parts a square figure, from easy to complex shape. Then they see them and show the variety of valid ways.

Students **become photo composers**. They cut the images of several photos. Then they glue them mixed on a painted board to express new things in a surrealistic way

Students **create a story in language classes**, just adding one meaningful word each student to the words given before by others. So the story gets longer, step by step.

Students may **create an imaginary country** in **Social Science** classes. They may design its imaginary physical and political map, its flag, language, anthem and coin. Later, its political system, population structure, social economy, urbanization, main roads and transport infrastructure, economic resources, etc.

Students **become luthiers**. They build percussion instruments with common objects and form a band with these instruments to play during **Music** classes.