

IMAGINATIVE BRAINSTORMING

*To boost our imaginations, we must use them more—use ‘em or lose ‘em! Try some **imaginative brainstorming** using the list below. Then make up your own imaginative brainstorming items to challenge each other. Don’t do these all at once, but rather do one a day to warm up imaginations. Choose one and set a timer to write as many things as you can in 3 minutes. Or instead, go around the class with each student saying an item for the target list. Use these as students line up for lunch or recess as a quick, focused activity. Group brainstorming gives us a peek at other’s imaginations and can encourage even more creative ideas. Ready, set, go . . . USE YOUR IMAGINATIONS!*

1. Name as many COLD things as you can. (blue, fast, wooden, striped, city, flexible, soggy, inspiring, innocent, living, noisy, contagious, etc.)
2. What would a giraffe (ant, guitar, mouse, feather, bandage, the White House, umbrella, sunglasses, river, envelope, heart, peace, etc.) say if it could talk? (Make sure you talk as if you really were the giraffe.)
3. Fill in this blank as many ways as you can: Watch the baby _____ (ing) (the cat, the astronaut, the teacher, the tomato, hammer, environment, etc.)
4. What can you use a whisk for? (cotton ball, spoon, oar, pillow, toothbrush, hangar, plate, trunk, Frisbee, tomato, the internet, brain, etc.)
5. Draw a squiggle on a paper. Trade papers with someone else. Then turn it every which way. What are all the things the squiggle looks like?
6. Have everyone in class write 3 random words on slips of paper. Put the papers into a container. Each student must then pull out 3 papers and make a sentence using their chosen words.
7. Name as many things as you can that FLY (cry, cut, grow, fall, charge, melt, wiggle, fade, explode, shift, balance, measure, detour, reflect, etc.)
8. Name as many words as you can that describe a ROOSTER (elephant, acorn, football, meatball, pumpkin, ice cream, dictionary, bat, opinion, etc.)