## Critical and Creative Thinking



The Family Edition

## **Goals for the Introduction**

- Share the vision for Critical and Creative Thinking (CCT) for Families
- · Provide an overview of how the activities are structured
- Introduce the idea of S.C.A.M.P.E.R.
- Plant a seed for creative productivity



This family edition was inspired by the Table Topics found at Chck-fil-A.

# A-Speck Mondays (September 29, 200) Critical and Creative Thinking 4 Denotines (as and present manager) The present was active and present managers and present the sequence of a respect of the present of the sequence of the sequence of the present of the sequence of th

There are four major categories of activities created around the strategies in the APS Critical and Creative Thinking Framework. In each category, you will find a prompt/activity to do as well as additional ideas if the first idea does not interest your family. You will also get a brief explanation of the thinking strategy used to frame the activity and another CCT strategy, SCAMPER that can be used with any activity to add a bit more depth and complexity to the activity.

## **Critical and Creative Thinking Tasks**

Questioning	Visualization
The answer was 24. What might the question have been? How many different questions can you develop?	When we visualize things, we picture things in our mind.
Try these:  The answer was: a pumpkin.	When you close your eyes and think of the word calm, what do you see? What do you feel? What do you think?
The answer was: the laundry room. The answer was: honesty. The answer was: a snowstorm. The answer was: Mickey Mouse.	Other things to visualize could be: When you close your eyes and think of  a mountain lake a bike ride in the woods a mysterious castle
	leaves falling from trees

Here you will see two of the four categories of activities: Questioning and Visualization.

### **Critical and Creative Thinking Tasks** Fluency, Flexibility, Originality, Plus, Minus, Interesting Elaboration 1. Leaves can turn orange during Fall. Make a list of things that are orange. Create a PMI chart about Fall. 2. What are some other uses for a rake? · What are some good things about this season? · What are some bad things about this season? 3. We often notice the trees during Fall. Design a · What makes Fall interesting? Distance Learning Treehouse (with Wi-Fi obviously) that you would enjoy. 1 4. Use words, diagrams, labels, measurements, etc. to elaborate on the unique and original treehouse you made in Step 3. Can you come up with 3 ideas for each category? Here are some other options for PMI charts to create. Calculators Pets · Board Games Taking Risks

The next two are around the strategies: Plus, Minus or Interesting or PMI and Fluency, Flexibility, Originality and Elaboration or FFOE.

# Skills Overview Questioning Effective questions can support learners' efforts to explain, interpret, and apply what they know. Open-ended questions can increase interest and support the development of a range of critical and creative thinking skills. Visualization Stated simply, visualization is technique that involves forming images in our mind. Visualizing helps us imagine situations, events, or ideas even when what we are thinking about is not actually present. Plus-Minus-Interesting Learners use the PMI structure to keep an open-minded attitude and consider an issue from multiple perspectives. Younger learners may consider what would make a certain idea interesting (i.e. What if books were round?), older learners may use the "I" to consider implications.

Here is a quick definition of the strategy and why it is good for students to be engaged in these critical and creative strategies.

## The Value of S.C.A.M.P.E.R.

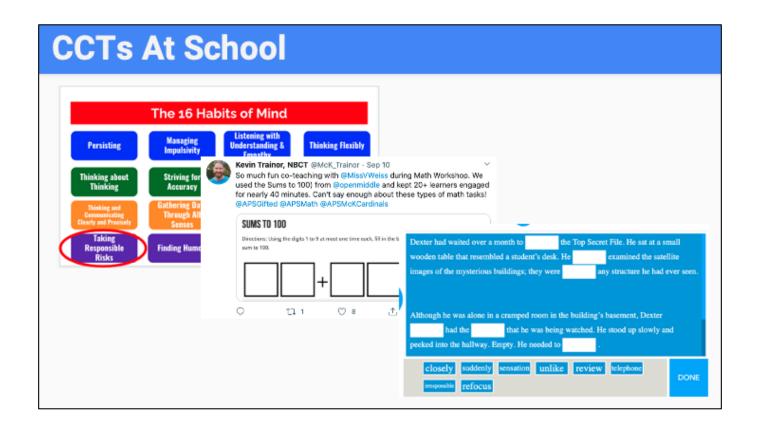


### S.C.A.M.P.E.R.

S.C.A.M.P.E.R. is a model that helps us create unique thoughts, explore relationships, and search for new or different combinations. SCAMPER involves a variety techniques (Substitute – Combine – Adjust or Adapt – Modify – Put to Other Uses – Eliminate or Elaborate – Reverse or Rearrange) that help to change and improve something by changing one or more parts of the original idea.

Remember, you can S.C.A.M.P.E.R. any of these activities on the first page. This might make them more interesting and enjoyable to work on.

This is a suggestion that SCAMPER can be used to change any activity in a variety of ways to make them more interesting to your family.



This slide is showing you that CCT strategies are happening in schools all the time and we thought it would be a great home-school connection to share ways your family can do this too.

## Planting a Seed