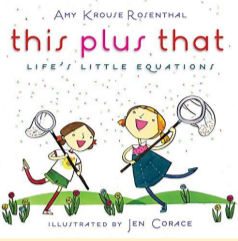


Critical and Creative Thinking for Families

(Volume 10)

→ Directions: Look over these activities and choose one (or more) that seem interesting to you.

<h3 style="margin: 0;">Habits of Mind - Responding with Wonderment and Awe</h3> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">Where do you find wonderment and awe among the simple and everyday things in life?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Snap some photographs of things that seem simple, yet you also find to be amazing... things that are simply amazing. Use your five senses to explore the world around you. <p style="margin: 10px 0;">Share your photograph(s) and encourage others to give it a short title. Note the similarities and differences in ways that others view your photographs.</p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">Encapsulation</h3> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">We use encapsulation to help identify the essence of an idea. An encapsulation is brief and concise.</p> <div style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">  </div> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">Let's get started:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify the things in your life for which we are grateful: people, places, experiences, memories, and/or traditions Use words, phrases, and images to build a set of your own "Life's Little Equations." 						
<h3 style="margin: 0;">Plus - Minus - Interesting</h3> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">The Situation: Your wake up one morning and realize that you can only respond to others in kind and considerate ways. What would be the pluses, minuses, and interestings of this?</p> <table border="1" style="margin: 10px auto; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="padding: 5px;">Plus</th> <th style="padding: 5px;">Minus</th> <th style="padding: 5px;">Interesting</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="height: 30px;"></td> <td style="height: 30px;"></td> <td style="height: 30px;"></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">If you don't love these option, consider using P-M-I to explore other ideas.</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">What if...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Your sibling beats you at a game Someone blames you for something you didn't do You're feeling grouchy 	Plus	Minus	Interesting				<h3 style="margin: 0;">Questioning</h3> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">The answer was "a little more than half." What might the question have been? How many different questions can you develop?</p> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 10px 0;">***</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">The questions below are meant to be playful. By posing questions that don't have a right or wrong answer, we can develop the habit of taking responsible risks with our thinking.</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0;">Would you rather be a:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> snowball or hot chocolate? scarf or a pair of mittens? tornado or tsunami? <p style="margin: 10px 0;">Would you rather have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> wings or a tail? a trampoline or a water slide? a superpower or a million dollars?
Plus	Minus	Interesting					



Responding with Wonderment and Awe

The world around us can be a beautiful, powerful, and mysterious place. By allowing ourselves to wonder, our hearts and minds remain open to all of life's surprises.



Encapsulation

When we think of what it means to encapsulate something, we think about getting at the essence of an idea, object, or perhaps period of time. We need to think deeply and synthesize information in order to get heart of idea, object, or period of time.



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.



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.



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 (**S**ubstitute – **C**ombine – **A**djust or **A**dapt – **M**odify – **P**ut to Other Uses – **E**liminate or **E**laborate – **R**everse or **R**earrange) 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.