



THE HEART OF CREATIVITY

Research Briefs and Reflections

Everyone Can Be Creative

Creativity isn't the sole purview of the artists and other creative practitioners. In fact, we are all born with creativity. Unlocking the innate creativity in students, educators, and leaders empowers deeper, more creative learning and leadership.

Creativity has been described as the ability to generate new, out of the box ideas. It manifests in small ways in our daily lives as well as in big ways as we solve complex social or educational dilemmas. But are creative solutions the sole domain of a lucky group of people born with some special "creative gene?" It turns out that we are all born with creativity! In fact, researchers argue that some of us are socialized in ways that minimize that innate creativity, but it is still there and can be cultivated. When we think of creativity as a set of habits of mind and behaviors rather than innate ability, we can unlock the door to creative problem-solving. By creating environments that encourage creative thinking and framing failure as an essential part of growth, we give license to ignite creativity and loosen creative instincts.

Reflection Questions:

- How can arts educators and practitioners model creativity and creative thinking in schools, districts, and County Offices of Education?
- How can arts educators serve as mentors, coaches, and thought partners to spread arts learning and creativity throughout the systems in which they work?

Key Points to Remember:

- ★ Everyone has innate creative ability that can be developed.
- ★ Creativity can be cultivated through creative habits of mind and behaviors.
- ★ Educational environments can be shaped to encourage creativity.

Learn More:

The Simple Reason Everyone Can Be Creative | Inc.com <https://www.inc.com/peter-gasca/the-simple-recipe-for...>

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/why-are-some-people-more-creative-than-others/>

<https://www.creativityatwork.com/can-creativity-be-taught/>

