

Brainstorming

Children work together coming up with ideas

Objective: To introduce brainstorming as a way to generate ideas.

Materials: An ordinary object such as a box, a wooden spoon, or a cardboard tube.

Procedure: Explain that the purpose of brainstorming is to come up with as many ideas as possible in a short period of time. During the brainstorm no one says whether the ideas are good or bad, sensible or silly, workable or not workable. The point is simple to get out as many ideas as you can. After the brainstorm is finished, the ideas are evaluated. (Thumbs Up/Thumbs Down goes well with this lesson, quickly review this worksheet and use it during the session.)

Set the objects in front of the group. Ask them to suggest all the things they can think of that they could do with the object. Write their suggestions on the board. After a few minutes, or after energy for the brainstorm runs down, end the brainstorm and begin evaluating the ideas. What does the group think it would like to do with the object? How can the objects be combined to try and include everyone?