

Science Minilessons: Creative Thinking

Wild Inventions

LIST a piece of technology you wish existed, such as an automatic homework button.

CHOOSE one piece of technology and create a **CLUSTER** about its features. (See *Inquire* page 38.)

IMAGINE how your invention would work.

DRAW your invention. (See *Inquire* page 39.)

Put a simile on your face.

ANSWER these scientific simile questions in as many ways as possible:

How is a glacier like a river?

How is an atom like a solar system?

How is a brain like a computer?

ASK your own simile questions about scientific topics. (See *Inquire* pages 36–37.)

Square Pegging a Solution

IMAGINE that a giant meteor was heading toward Earth.

RESEARCH ways that scientists suggest we could stop the meteor.

PICK a random object and **SQUARE-PEG** ways it could be used to stop a meteor. (See *Inquire* page 41.) **BE** outlandish and ridiculous.

TAKE one of your outlandish suggestions and **MODIFY** it so it actually works.

Math Minilessons: Creative Thinking

Rate it!

PICK a category of thing that you would like to rate—foods, albums, movies, bikes, or something else.

LIST the traits that make the thing really good. (See *Inquire* page 43.)

RATE different examples of the category—for instance, burgers from three restaurants—giving a 1–10 score for each example.

TOTAL the scores and **CREATE** a table showing the results. (See *Inquire* page 377.)

Math Mnemonics

THINK of a math fact or concept that you have a hard time remembering.

READ *Inquire* pages 34–35 to learn about different memory aids.

CREATE a memory aid to help you remember the pesky fact.

SHARE your memory aid with others in your class.

Multiply like a Roman.

LEARN about Roman numerals in class or online.

WRITE the Roman numeral for 53.

WRITE beneath it the Roman numeral for 17.

TRY to **MULTIPLY** Roman numeral 53 times Roman numeral 17.

RESEARCH the Arabic numeral 0 to see how it changed mathematics.

FREWRITE about what you discovered. (See *Inquire* page 39.)