

Growing Creative Thinkers!

How Creativity & Innovation Helps Students Succeed



Students use technology to **imagine, design, create, and improve** solutions to real-world problems. These skills help them express ideas, solve challenges, and prepare for the future!

CREATIVITY & INNOVATION is 1 of the 5 strands of the Texas Technology Applications TEKS for K–8!

WHAT WILL MY CHILD LEARN?



THINK LIKE A DESIGNER

Ask questions, brainstorm ideas, plan solutions, test and improve their work.



CREATE ORIGINAL PRODUCTS

Design digital projects, build models and prototypes, and express ideas creatively using technology.



WORK THROUGH CHALLENGES

Show persistence, learn from mistakes, revise and improve, and build confidence by solving problems.



SOLVE REAL PROBLEMS

Create solutions for authentic problems that matter in their classroom, school, community, or the world.



SEE THE BIG PICTURE

Explore how technology changes over time, impacts communities, and helps us solve real-world challenges.

HOW THESE SKILLS GROW ACROSS GRADE LEVELS

KINDERGARTEN – 2ND GRADE



- Follow directions during creative projects
- Ask questions and brainstorm ideas
- Create simple solutions with teacher support
- Learn that technology can help solve problems

3RD – 5TH GRADE



- Give and receive feedback
- Improve original ideas and products
- Solve authentic problems through a design process
- Develop persistence and effective communication

6TH – 8TH GRADE



- Use digital tools to design and refine prototypes
- Compare and evaluate different solutions
- Learn from trial and error
- Explore how technology changes the world
- Consider multiple perspectives when solving problems



TRY IT AT HOME!

- Build something using recycled materials or LEGO® bricks.
- Ask, "What could make this even better?"
- Design a family logo, a new board game, or a digital slideshow about your family.
- Wonder together! Who invented this? What problem does it solve? How could we improve it?



TALK TOGETHER

- What problem did you solve today?
- What was your first idea?
- Did your idea change as you worked?
- What mistake helped you learn something new?
- If you could invent anything, what would it be?



TECHNOLOGY IS ALWAYS CHANGING!

- How technology has changed throughout history
- New and emerging technologies
- How technology impacts communities around the world
- How innovation helps solve real-world problems



FAMILIES MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

- Celebrate the process—not just the final product.
- Praise your child for trying something new.
- Encourage questions, creativity, and perseverance.
- These habits build confident learners and future innovators!



TOGETHER, WE CAN!

When schools and families encourage creativity and innovation, students gain the skills and mindset to imagine big, solve problems, and make a difference!

