

SEPTEMBER

MONDAY GETS
IMAGINATIVE



MONTHLY
LAUNCH



WE CAN

just imagine



MONTHLY LAUNCH

 Review the following lesson. Check for additional resources at <https://www.everymondaymatters.com/>. Consider sharing part or all of the following lesson to build background to this month's theme for your students.

Prep time: 5 mins.

 As this is the first Monday of the month, we recommend presenting the Monthly Launch lesson or high-light sections. The content is intended to build background for you and foster connection for your students to this month's theme. Refer to the lesson content for your grade level. Provide opportunities for students to experience this month's theme MONDAY GETS IMAGINATIVE

 This month, we are going to GET IMAGINATIVE. The ways in which we use our imagination are amazing. Without it, we wouldn't progress. So let's start with month and connect to what SPARKS our CREATIVITY. Let's use our imagination to SEE BEYOND what is in front of us to create possibilities. Let's create freshness and TRY SOMETHING NEW. Then let's end the month by using our IMAGINATION to MAKE MAGIC and meaningful experiences for what MATTERS to us.

This month, let's GET IMAGINATIVE.

LAUNCH (1-2 minutes)

 IMAGINATION. Think of everything around you that was made possible because someone IMAGINED it. That's pretty much everything. From the design of the chair, you are sitting in to your hair-style, someone used their imagination to visualize it and make it happen. Our IMAGINATION allows us to see what is in front of us and see its potential. Our IMAGINATION allows us to construct things others may not have thought possible. Our IMAGINATION rocketed us beyond the moon. Our IMAGINATION creates our future. This is why MONDAY GETS IMAGINATIVE.

Weekly Strategies: Monday Gets Imaginative

Monday, September 5 – Spark Creativity

Monday, September 12 – See Beyond

Monday, September 19 – Try Something New

Monday, September 26 – Make Magic

INQUIRY (3-5 minutes)

CONSIDER ASKING 1-3 OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS TO CONNECT STUDENTS TO THIS MONTH'S THEME: *NOTE: Consider selecting questions appropriate for your students' ages, grades, ability levels, and classroom goals.



In what ways, might you use your IMAGINATION?

What inspires people to use their IMAGINATION?

How might our IMAGINATION help others?

How might our IMAGINATION help our world?

What might life be like if we were not IMAGINATIVE?

How does your IMAGINATION help you create?

How might we use our IMAGINATION to see beyond and create possibilities?

How might we use our IMAGINATION to discover and try new things?

How can our IMAGINATION help us to create and see the magic in everyday life?

How does actively connecting to our IMAGINATION help us understand how much and why we MATTER?

ACTIVITY DIRECTIONS: Refer to the content for your grade level. Think about the amazing things your students do and how we can create opportunities for them to engage in ways to value who they are and those around them. *Think about having your students read aloud different sections of the lesson.



THE SITUATION

GRADES K-2

Some people think that IMAGINATION is only for people who are artistic, play make-believe, or make animated movies. That may be true but we believe something else. Every one of us uses our IMAGINATION. We use our imagination to put together outfits to wear to school. We use our imagination to figure out what we want to do after school. We use our imagination to plant gardens, play video games, bake birthday cakes, tell stories, and create new dance moves. We even use our imagination to score goals, make touchdowns, and run through tumbling routines. Our IMAGINATION helps us to see what we want to achieve. Our imagination inspires and motivates us to make our dreams possible.

GRADES 3-5

Some people think that IMAGINATION is only for those who are artistic, play make-believe, or write fiction and fantasy novels. That may be true but we believe that every one of us uses our IMAGINATION. We use our imagination to put together outfits to wear to school. We use our imagination to design projects and build models. We use our imagination to plan what we are going to do this weekend. We use our imagination to plant gardens, play video games, bake birthday cakes, tell stories, and create new dance moves. We even use our imagination to score goals, make touchdowns, and run through tumbling routines. Our IMAGINATION helps us to visualize what we set out to do and achieve. Our imagination is an essential tool that inspires and motivates us to make our dreams possible.



MIDDLE SCHOOL/JUNIOR HIGH

Some people think that IMAGINATION is reserved for those who are artistic, play fantasy games, or write fiction novels. That may be true but we believe that every one of us uses our IMAGINATION. We use our imagination to put together outfits to wear to school. We use our imagination to design projects and build models. We use our imagination to plan what we are going to do this weekend. We use our imagination to plant gardens, play video games, bake birthday cakes, tell stories, and create new dance moves. We even use our imagination to score goals, make touchdowns, and run through tumbling routines. Our IMAGINATION helps us to visualize what we set out to do and achieve. Our imagination is an essential tool that inspires and motivates us to make our dreams possible.



HIGH SCHOOL

Some people think that IMAGINATION is reserved for those who are artistic, play fantasy games, create animé, write fiction novels or think up the next fancy rainbow Frappuccino. Some people think that IMAGINATION is only for dreams. That may be true but we believe that every one of us uses our IMAGINATION. We use our imagination to put together outfits to wear to school nights out. We use our imagination to design projects and build models. We use our imagination to plan what we are going to do this weekend. We use our imagination to play video games, bake birthday cakes, tell stories, and create new dance moves. We even use our imagination to score goals, make touchdowns, and run through tumbling routines. Our IMAGINATION helps us to visualize what we want to achieve. Our imagination is an essential tool that inspires and motivates us to explore ideas, set goals and make our dreams possible.

THE CHALLENGE



GRADES K-2

It's easy for some of us to feel like we don't have any IMAGINATION especially if we compare ourselves to people who we think are incredibly creative. We might even think we don't have any imagination because we tend to do the same thing every day and wear our favorite T-shirt every Friday. However, if we take a closer look at the definition of IMAGINATION - "the ability of the mind to be creative or resourceful" (Oxford Living Languages), we can start to connect to the fact that our IMAGINATION gives us the ability to do more than we think we can.

So, this month let's ignite our IMAGINATION. What do you want to imagine into being? You might be thinking a pet dragon or unicorn, becoming a pop singer or video game designer. You might be imagining a place where everyone feels happy and safe. What do you IMAGINE for yourself, the people around you, our community and world? Let's use our creativity to create joy, purpose, connectedness and understanding. Let's use our IMAGINATION to create who we want to become and a world where everyone wants to be. This is why MONDAY GETS IMAGINATIVE.



GRADES 3-5

It's easy for some of us to feel unimaginative especially if we start comparing ourselves to others who we think are incredibly creative. We might even think we don't have any imagination because we tend to follow our routines day in and day out and wear our favorite T-shirt every Friday. However, if we take a closer look at the definition of IMAGINATION - "the ability of the mind to be creative or resourceful" (Oxford Living Languages), we can start to connect to the fact that our IMAGINATION empowers us to do more than we think we can.

So, this month let's ignite our IMAGINATION. What do you want to imagine into being? You might be thinking a pet dragon or unicorn, becoming a social media influencer or game designer. You might be visualizing a place where everyone feels safe and supported to be themselves. You might be imagining a cure for cancer or a world where everyone has an equal opportunity. What do you IMAGINE for yourself, the people around you, your community and our world? Let's use our creativity and resources to create joy, purpose, connectedness and understanding. Let's use our IMAGINATION to create who we want to become and a world where everyone wants to be. This is why MONDAY GETS IMAGINATIVE.

MIDDLE SCHOOL/JUNIOR HIGH

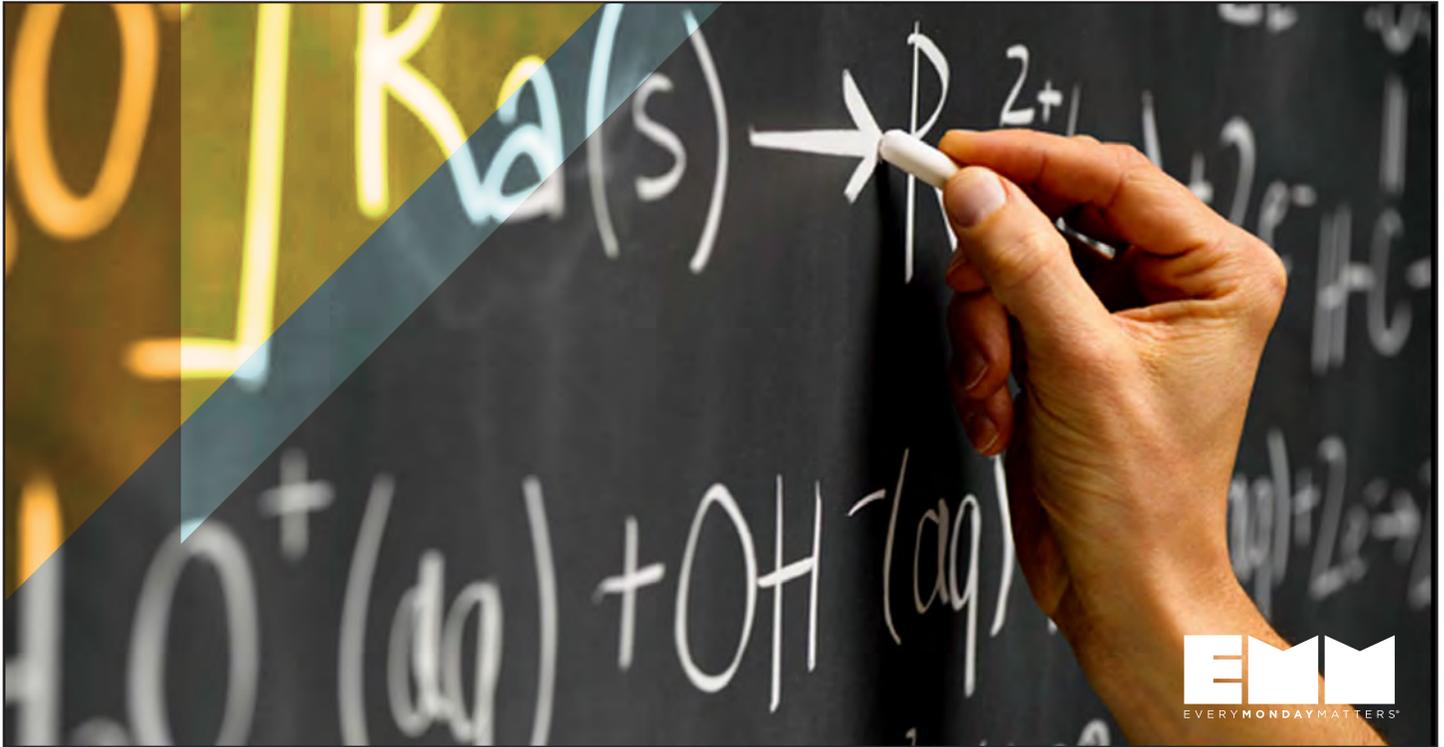
It's easy for some of us to feel unimaginative especially if we start comparing ourselves to others who we think are incredibly creative. We might even think we don't have any imagination because we tend to follow our routines day in and day out and wear our favorite socks every Friday. However, if we take a closer look at the definition of IMAGINATION - "the ability of the mind to be creative or resourceful" (Oxford Living Languages), we can start to connect to the fact that our IMAGINATION empowers us to do more than we think we can.

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HIGH SCHOOL

It's easy for some of us to feel unimaginative especially if we start comparing ourselves to others who we think are incredibly creative and innovative. We might even think we don't have any imagination because we tend to follow our routines day in and day out and wear our favorite socks every Friday. However, if we take a closer look at the definition of IMAGINATION - "the ability of the mind to be creative or resourceful" (Oxford Living Languages), we can start to connect to the fact that our IMAGINATION empowers us to do more than we think we can.

So, this month let's ignite our IMAGINATION. What do you want to imagine into being? You might be thinking becoming a social media influencer, game designer, living in a mansion with an infinity pool or driving an expensive sports car. You might be visualizing a place where everyone feels safe and supported to be themselves. You might be imagining a cure for cancer or a world where everyone has an equal opportunity. You might be IMAGINING what you will be after you graduate. What do you IMAGINE for yourself, the people around you, your community and our world? Let's use our creativity and resources to create joy, purpose, connectedness and understanding. Let's use our IMAGINATION to create who we want to become and a world where everyone wants to be. This is why MONDAY GETS IMAGINATIVE.



MONTHLY FACTS

“WITHOUT LEAPS OF IMAGINATION, OF DREAMING, WE LOSE THE EXCITEMENT OF POSSIBILITIES. DREAMING, AFTER ALL, IS A FORM OF PLANNING.”

- Gloria Steinem, American journalist and social rights activist

THE WORD IMAGINATION IS DERIVED FROM THE LATIN WORD, “IMAGO” THAT MEANS AN IMAGE OR A PICTURE. IMAGINATION IS YOUR ABILITY FOR PROCESSING COMPREHENDIBLE MENTAL IMAGES OR PICTURES OR IDEAS. IN GENERAL, IMAGINATION WILL LEAD TO CREATIVITY AND VERSATILITY. IN CHILDREN, THE POWER OF IMAGINATION IS THE RIGHT PRECURSOR FOR DEVELOPING CREATIVITY, FOCUS, ATTENTION AND VISUALIZATION. THE POWER OF IMAGINATION IS A VERY GOOD TOOL... IMAGINATION HELPS YOUR CHILDREN TO PROBE AND EXPLORE THE WORLD AROUND THEM AND CREATE AN ORDERLY IDEA OR MEANING FOR THEIR FUTURE LIFE.

- Loh, Andrew; *The Power of Children's Imagination and Creativity - Learning the Fundamentals*; www.brainy-child.com

“CREATIVITY IS A NATURAL EXTENSION OF OUR ENTHUSIASM.”

- Earl Nightengale, author

6 WAYS TO SPARK YOUR CREATIVITY

- 1. ALLOW TIME FOR DOING NOTHING: GIVING YOUR MIND SPACE TO WORK ON PROBLEMS (OR RECOGNIZE NEW ONES) CAN BE MUCH MORE PRODUCTIVE THAN STIMULATING YOUR BRAIN WITH LOTS OF INPUT ALL THE TIME.**
- 2. GET OUTSIDE: YOU DON'T HAVE TO CLIMB A MOUNTAIN TO GET A BOOST. IN FACT, DOING NOTHING WHILE OUTSIDE—OR MAYBE JUST WALKING—IS ALL THE BETTER. BEING IN NATURE CAN BOOST CREATIVE THINKING SKILLS.**

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- 3. LOOK AROUND AT WHAT YOU CAN TWEAK: FROM THE IPHONE TO DRONES THAT ARE ADAPTED TO CARRY MEDICINES, SOME OF THE MOST USEFUL IDEAS AREN'T ALTOGETHER NEW. THEY'RE RIFFS ON STUFF THAT ALREADY EXISTS.**
 - 4. MAKE TIME TO PLAY: FROM ROBOTS TO ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, MANY KEY INVENTIONS BEGAN ESSENTIALLY AS TOYS.**
 - 5. TRY, TRY AGAIN: THOSE WHO PUT IN THE WORK TO PERFECT AN IDEA—AND KEEP TRYING NEW ONES WHEN THE FIRST ATTEMPT FAILS—ARE LIKELIER TO MAKE A MARK.**
 - 6. DON'T BE AFRAID TO THINK SMALL: SOMETHING SEEMINGLY TRIVIAL CAN REVEAL WORLDLY MYSTERIES—AND ALSO SOLUTIONS.**

- *Nunez, Christina; 6 Ways to Spark Your Creativity; National Geographic; May 2017*

“IMAGINATION OFTEN CARRIES US TO WORLDS THAT NEVER WERE, BUT WE GO NOWHERE WITHOUT IT.”

- *Carl Sagan, scientist*

THINK BACK TO A TIME WHEN YOU PLAYED A GAME OR ENGAGED IN A CREATIVE ACTIVITY. HOW DID IT FEEL? DID IT MAKE YOU FEEL SMARTER, MORE CONNECTED, AND REMOVED FROM THE STRESS OF EVERYDAY LIFE? CREATIVE ACTIVITIES AND IMAGINATIVE GAMES WITH OTHERS GIVE US THE OPPORTUNITY TO RECHARGE OUR BRAINS, TAKE A MUCH-NEEDED BREAK FROM OUR DAILY STRESSORS, AND HELP US CONNECT WITH THOSE AROUND US.

- *The Effects of an Active Imagination on Your Mental Health; www.betterhelp.com*

“BUT I NEARLY FORGOT, YOU MUST CLOSE YOUR EYES...OTHERWISE YOU WON'T SEE ANYTHING.”

- *Lewis Carrols, author of Alice's Adventure in Wonderland*