

Overview

In this activity, individuals brainstorm as many new uses for everyday objects as they can, before groups select their favorites to present to the class.

Materials

- Slips of paper or sticky notes
- Box or container to hold slips of paper
- [1001 Ways Organizer](#)

21st-Century Skills Targeted

- Creativity
- Communication
- Critical Thinking
- Collaboration
- Social Skills
- Flexibility

Steps

- Have each individual write the name of an everyday object on a slip of paper or sticky note (one object per slip), and place it in the box or container.
NOTE: Individuals can create a slip for as many objects as they can think of, or you can limit the number of slips submitted per person (e.g., each individual contributes three slips).

The next steps can be done in pairs/small groups.

- THINK-PAIR-SHARE:
 - Each pair/group draws one slip from the box/container and must come up with as many new uses for the object as they can. Invite individuals to move through this step on their own first by writing these ideas down, or sketching them out in the organizer provided. Consider setting a time limit (e.g., 15 minutes) for this step.
 - Next, have individuals discuss their ideas with their partner/group.
 - Have pairs/groups agree on 1 or 2 favorite ideas from their group to present to the whole class.
- Extensions:
 - Continue for multiple rounds, with pairs/groups picking a new slip of paper each round.
 - Have the class vote on the
 - most unique repurposing of an object
 - most marketable new use of an object
 - most creative new use of an object
 - most different new use of an object from the original intention
 - etc.



Object selected: _____

New uses: