

Thinking Creatively

Name: _____ Date: _____



Before you start researching a topic it is important to open your mind to new ideas. Many of Canada’s early settlement groups faced a lot of new challenges and used creative thinking to help them survive. Try the creative tasks below.

Jacques LeCastor

<p>Fluency coming up with lots of ideas</p>	<p>Put yourself back in time. You are going to a new land and starting a new settlement. Make a list of all of the things a settlement needs to be successful.</p>			
<p>Flexibility changing or organizing ideas</p>	<p>Place the settlement needs into categories. For example:</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Family</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Community</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Both</td> </tr> </table>	Family	Community	Both
Family	Community	Both		
<p>Originality seeking the unusual</p>	<p>You want everyone to be happy and content in your new settlement. Come up with a plan to make this happen.</p>			
<p>Elaboration expanding ideas</p>	<p>Look at your plan for happiness more closely. Write a PMI (Pluses, Minuses, Interesting ideas) to see if your plan is a good one.</p>			
<p>Risk Taking experimenting with new ideas</p>	<p>Some early settlement groups didn’t think about what their actions would do to the environment. What will you do to make sure your new settlement doesn’t make this mistake?</p>			
<p>Complexity looking at situations logically</p>	<p>Plan ahead. Think of at least five challenges your new settlement might encounter. Come up with an action plan for dealing with each.</p>			
<p>Curiosity wondering about the options</p>	<p>What would your role be in this new settlement? Why?</p>			
<p>Imagination reaching beyond the limits of the practical</p>	<p>Imagine that you could go beyond the possible. What would you create or do to improve the early experiences of your settlement group?</p>			

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Instructions

Excellent	Good	Fair	Needs improvement
4	3	2	1

In the box at the end of each line enter the number that best describes your work on this activity.

Fluency: I/We came up with a lot of ideas.	
Flexibility: I/We organized the settlement needs into categories.	
Originality: My/Our ideas were creative and different from the usual ideas.	
Elaboration: I/We thought through the ideas and added lots of detail.	
Risk Taking: I/We tried out new ideas.	
Complexity: I/We came up with good challenges and good action plans for dealing with the challenges.	
Curiosity: I/We considered a lot of different options during this activity.	
Imagination: I /We came up with neat ideas that might not be practical but they would be interesting and fun.	

Student Comments

<i>Things Done Well</i>	<i>Things That Need Improvement</i>

Teacher's Comments
