

Chicken & egg



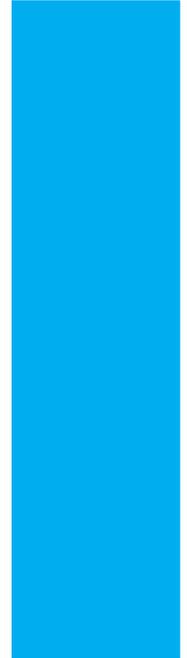
Sometimes, pupils are not just required to come up with 'the' right answer – they are asked to find 'a' right answer. The difference might not sound much more than a semantic side-step – but it is.

Finding 'the' (singular) right answer is a little like finding a needle in the proverbial haystack; pupils must locate a particular answer pre-determined by the teacher. They either find the needle or they don't. Tick or cross.

Finding 'a' right answer implies the possible existence of more than one. This typically entails a more divergent thought process, where pupils are required to generate relevant possibilities and suggestions, which have not already been pre-determined. They might decide to look for the needle somewhere other than the haystack (or seek something else entirely). Divergent thought is an essential ingredient of inspiration and

innovation, so comes in quite handy for those with a penchant for a creative curriculum.

Chicken & egg activities poke the parts of the brain that many lessons do not reach. They inspire unconventional thinking, facilitating inspiration and originality. **Chicken & egg** challenges remove the blinkers of the conventional curriculum and promote thinking outside the box. Undertaking these challenges helps learners to transform a mentality of merely looking for a particular answer to one of generating original suggestions. They promote the philosopher within; not just finding the answers but posing the questions – learning without limits.



1. Flying trumpets



If elephants had wings... where would they roost?

For example:

On a helicopter landing pad, a very dense cloud, a piece of construction machinery...



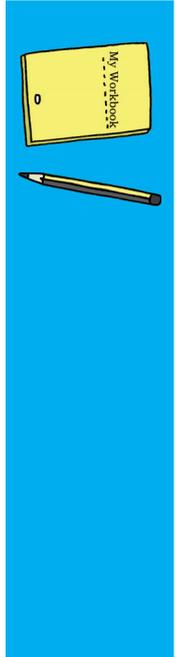
2. Scissors, paper, stone... ?



'Scissors beat paper, paper beats stone, stone beats... ' What could come next instead of scissors? Try to continue the chain of words as far as you can.

For example:

*Stone beats cheese, cheese
beats milk, milk beats
water...*

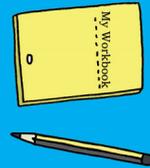


3. Snow go!

Imagine it snowed today. Make a list of everything and anything you could use as a sledge.

For example:

A large flat-screen television, a pair of banana skins, Dad's car bonnet...



4. Nocturnal journal



When you go to sleep, who or what awakes?

For example:

*My baby sister, the
fox who plays in the
garden...*

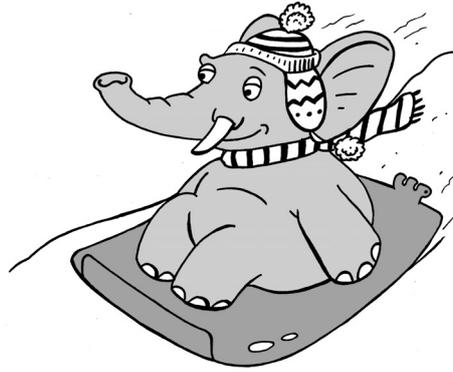


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