**Creative Problem Solving Tool**

1. State the name of the problem to be solved\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. Invent solutions and record them on the Creatvie Problem Solving Grid (see overleaf)

To help you invent solutions use the following question starters...

a) could we **change/modify** the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (name of problem) so it does not create the (name of situation) any more

b) Could we **eliminate/reduce** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(something that is causing the problem) to solve the problem (name of problem)

c) Could we **add** something to solve the problem of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(name of problem)

d) Can we do something to create the **opposite e**ffect?

1. Create evaluation criteria by recording a positive, negative or interesting dimension to each solution.
2. Evaluate the solutions by deciding on the “worth” of each solution against the evaluation criteria.
3. Select the best solution.
4. Suggest a plan of action.

**Simple Creative Problem Solving Grid**

**The problem is: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Evaluations**  **Potential**  **Solutions** |  |  |  |  |
| 1 |  |  |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |  |  |

**Scoring:**

*(create evaluation criteria by thinking through a positive, negative or interesting dimension of each solution)*

*(work through each solution and score each according to the evaluation criteria)*

*A= excellent, B = very good/worthwhile, C= average/worthwhile solution, D= below average/worthwhile solution, F=total failure solution*

**Simple Creative Problem Solving Grid Example**

**The problem is: How might we stop cell phone bullying?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Evaluations**  **Solutions** | *Fair to all* | *Costly* | *More work for police* | *Long term solution* |
| 1) nanny net | A | B | A | A |
| 2) phone licences | C | C | A | A |
| 3) tracking devices | A | C | D | A |
| 4) cell phone praise certificates prior to having a phone | A | A | A | A |

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*(create evaluation criteria by thinking through a positive, negative or interesting dimension of each solution)*

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Nanny net would be fair to all because all phone would have it so it is rated A.

Tracking devices would create more work for the police so are less worthwhile – rated D.