10 Small Shifts
FOR MORE CREATIVITY IN SCHOOLS

Big changes in education can feel impossible, but small, evolutionary shifts add up to lasting impact. The good news is that creativity doesn't require a full curriculum overhaul! Here some ways to easily bring creativity into your classroom.

Start with "What if?" Questions
Kick off a lesson by asking one imaginative question. It sets the tone for curiosity.

Change One Thing
Take a familiar lesson and tweak just one element of it (ex: format, materials, or outcome).

Use Choice Boards
Offer 2-3 ways students can show understanding.

Build in Pauses
Give students 90 seconds of silent thinking before sharing answers.

Celebrate Process over Product
Highlight effort, risk-taking, and "almost there" moments alongside finished work.

Flip a Routine
Reverse the order of a standard procedure (ex: discussion before reading, drawing before writing, movement before math).

Ask for Multiple Answers
Instead of "What's the right answer?", ask "What are three ways to solve this?"

Make it Visual
Encourage students to sketch, doodle, or map an idea before writing it out.

Add Joy
Use a quick improv game, a short song, or a "mystery bag" object to energize students.

Reflect Creatively
End the day with a reflection prompt like "Draw how you felt learning today" or "Give me one metaphor for what we did."

Small shifts create big change.
Try these tweaks and notice the difference in your classroom energy.