Creativity is a skill that can be taught like any other skill. It’s hard to see it that way because the results of creativity aren’t always so easily defined. You can define a good golf shot or an excellent sound from a piano. The players in each case know what they need to improve. But few people know how their brains work well enough to treat creativity as a skill.

Many people have identified what we can do to become more creative—to practice creativity. For instance, consider the following.

- Be open to new experiences and ideas.
- Practice connecting unrelated concepts, words, ideas, and associations to everything!
- Stop trying to fit in—stand out.
- Practice—a lot of practice. Malcolm Gladwell once wrote it takes 10,000 hours of practice to master a skill.
- Learn to refine and clarify your ideas.
- Explain: it’s not enough to see or do something; your brain needs to understand it.
- Ask questions and be curious.

Creativity can be learned. Explore your personal feelings about creativity. Note your ideas—with a crayon . . .