

Generating ideas lesson/workshop

Objectives:

- ✔ **Collect ideas** for a school participatory budget in a creative way that is interesting to young people.
- ✔ **Make a selection of ideas** in an objective way.
- ✔ **Involve young people** in the process of preparing projects for the school participatory budget.

Techniques:

- ⚙ **Gathering ideas**
- ⚙ **Idea filtering**

Duration:

- 🕒 **45 minutes**

Notes: In case of an on-site lesson/workshop, the lesson scenario can be modified accordingly.



Duration:

3 min

Description

Say hello.
Introduce the aim of the meeting.
Clarify with the group the rules of the workshop.

Details

Examples of working principles in an online workshop:

- If you are not speaking, turn off your microphone.
- Make yourself known by raising your virtual hand.
- We listen to each other.
- Wait until someone else has finished speaking, then present your idea.
- If someone talks about their idea and you come up with another idea, write it down on a piece of paper and wait for your turn.

5 min

Description

Introduction to idea generation.
Explain to students the ‘Gathering Ideas’ technique (sometimes known as ‘brainstorming’).

- Quality comes from quantity! It is important to have lots of ideas. The more, the better!
- Write down all ideas, even very unrealistic ones! They are often the starting point for the best, innovative solutions.
- Everyone can propose ideas, they should all be written down!
- We accept that there are no bad ideas! We turn off critical evaluation – both of our own ideas and of others. Let’s not comment on them, only refer to them if we want to present our own!
- Let’s not finish the discussion too early, even if there is silence and you think you have run out of ideas!

Details

It is very important to stress that creative and imaginative ideas always come up, you just have to speak out courageously and without self-criticism. It is very important to guide the group not to enter into a discussion of ideas, or say “it can’t be done”. The principle of not commenting critically should be sacrosanct.

15 min

Description

Gathering ideas session
Ask the students the following question:
“What do you want to change in our school?”
or “What ideas do you have for improving our school?”

Details

The teacher encourages and ensures that each student has a chance to speak, is attentive to ideas and writes them down in the author’s own words; The teacher avoids proposing their own ideas, unless there is silence in the group at the beginning and fear of speaking.

2 min

Description

Read all the ideas aloud.

Details

If the gathering of ideas was dynamic and creative, it is worth praising everyone and pointing out that a lot of interesting things come up in groups. It is worth doing it together!

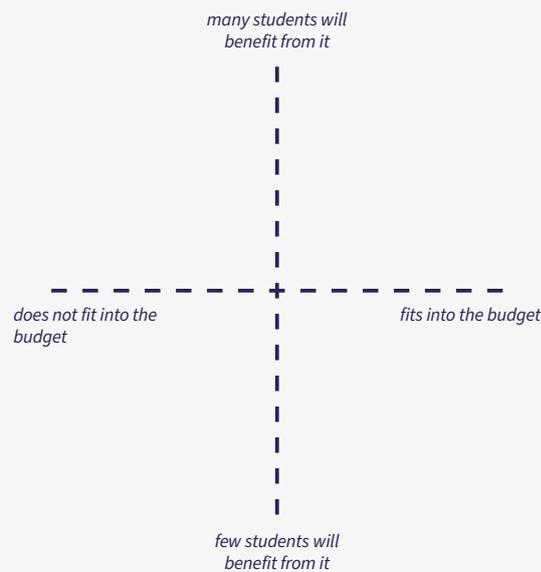
15 min

Description

Sort ideas to select one or two ideas that can be refined and submitted to the school participatory budget.

Task:

“Taking into account the values we have chosen, let us place the individual ideas on two axes”



Details

The idea filter comprises two axes X and Y to which values/selection criteria should be assigned. The criteria can be linked to the school budget rules: e.g. they are not only for one class but for the whole school community (important for different groups in the school vs. important only for our class), they can be implemented in the school building vs. they can be located outside the school, they are within the budget vs. they are more expensive than the budget, etc.

If there are many ideas, the idea filter can be applied again with different selection criteria.

When working online, you can use the Jamboard application.

5 min

Description

Summarise the selection of idea(s).
Encourage students to submit their chosen projects to the school participatory budget.

Details

If more than one idea is chosen by the students, the final choice can be made by voting (e.g. each student has two or more votes (e.g. sticky dots) and can distribute them as they see fit).