

Middle School Activity Starters Thinking Activities

What is this?

Think about different devices that you see and have to ask yourself, "what does that do?" Devices are usually created to complete a certain task. Use the link below to view a video for a device. Then see if you can determine what this device is for? Name the device you see in the video and what it's purpose is. Then see if you can build another device to do a similar task. Using bricks and other materials, try to design and build a device to complete a task. If you are familiar with coding, you can also think about how you would code a device to complete your task.

See the video and other inspiration at:

https://education.lego.com/en-us/lessons/prime-extra-resources/what-is-this#Planitem2

Clean Up Time

Cleaning up is never fun, but maybe it could be with the right device. Think about how you can make picking up easier and more fun with a device that can reach things on the ground, pass things, and even reach up high. Using bricks and other materials, design and build a device thatcan be used to pick up items to help you pick up. What will you need to grab? Think about the different objects you will need to pick up and move. What size and share are these items? How will you design your grabber to make sure you can grab the objects you need to easily.

For inspiration, see the Super Cleanup lessons available at https://education.lego.com/en-us/lessons/prime-invention-squad/super-cleanup#Planitem1

Dance, Dance, Dance

Everyone needs a little dance break during the day. Think about your favorite song and how you like to dance to it. Do you move your arms? Your legs and hips? Think about how you move your whole body. Then consider how you could design a mechanical dancer to repeat your moves. Using bricks and other materials, design and build one and show off your moves any time during the day that you need a little break.

For inspiration and to see a video of a mechanical dancer, see the Break Dance lesson available at: https://education.lego.com/en-us/lessons/prime-life-hacks/break-dance

Coaching you Along

Everyone needs a little motivation during the day. Think about ways that you would like to be coached through the day. Do you need a little inspiration to unload the dishwasher? Or to finish 10 push-ups? Maybe you need a coach to help get you through an assignment for school? Think about what will give you a little motivation. Do you need someone there to clap and cheer for your successes during the day? Or maybe give you a fist bump when you finish a task? Using bricks and other materials, design and build a coach that will be there to inspire and motivate you all day.

For inspiration, see The Coach lesson available at https://education.lego.com/en-us/lessons/prime-life-hacks/the-coach#Planitem1



Make Something Wearable

Fashion can come from so many places. Sometimes it's fun to make your own items to show off your style. See what things you can create that you can wear. Does your wearable also help you do something or is it just for show?

https://education.lego.com/en-us/lessons/maker-middleschool/wearables

Make a Household Helper

Need a little helper in your work area or house? Think about how you can create something that can help you every day. Design an idea and test it to see if it is helpful.

https://education.lego.com/en-us/lessons/maker-middleschool/make-a-household-helper