

CREATIVE CLUB

Activity Plan 8
Early Years

Creative Club - Facilitator Overview

Creative Problem Solvers: The Bridge Builders (Early Years)

Session Title	Creative Problem Solvers: The Bridge Builders
Session Summary	A hands-on after school care activity where children explore creativity, teamwork and problem-solving through a playful bridge-building challenge. Children work together to help toys cross a pretend river, testing ideas, trying different materials and learning that creative problem solvers keep trying, ask for help and find new ways forward.
Suitable For	After school care groups, OSHC programs, holiday programs, and particularly kindergarten and prep students. Facilitators can keep instructions simple, support children to share materials and encourage teamwork, persistence and safe testing.
Duration	35–45 minutes
Children Will	• Understand that creativity helps us come up with new ideas and solve problems. • Hear how Make-A-Wish Australia teams use creativity, teamwork and persistence to help make wishes happen. • Work together to build and test a bridge that helps toys cross a pretend river. • Practise trying again, changing ideas, sharing materials and asking for help.
What You'll Need	• Blocks, wooden pieces or plastic building materials • Recyclable materials such as boxes, tubes or cartons • Toy animals, cars or dolls to cross the bridge • Blue fabric, paper or tape to create a pretend river • Optional: tape or glue, used with adult support
Facilitator Notes	• Keep the session active and playful so it suits a busy after school care environment. • Use simple language: creativity means trying new ideas, and problem-solving means working out what to do when something is tricky. • Set up the pretend river and building materials before children begin. • Encourage children to test, change and rebuild rather than focusing on one perfect bridge. • Make sharing optional and support children to take turns with materials and toys.

Creative Problem Solvers: The Bridge Builders

1. Welcome & Creativity Warm-Up (5 minutes)

Welcome children and explain that today they will be creative problem solvers. Use simple language: creativity means trying new ideas, and problem-solving means working out what to do when something is tricky. Ask a quick question, such as “What could we do if a toy was stuck on the other side of a river?”

2. Make-A-Wish Story Connection (5 minutes)

- Briefly explain that Make-A-Wish Australia grants life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses, helping bring hope and joy during tough times.
- Explain that wishes often need lots of creative thinking and teamwork. People in the WishForce work together to find ways to make special wishes happen.
- Connect this to the activity: today children will work together, try ideas and solve a problem, just like creative teams do.

3. Creative Activity: Bridge Builders (20–25 minutes)

- Set up a pretend river using blue fabric, paper or tape, then place toys on one side.
- Explain the problem: the toys need to cross the river safely, but there is no bridge.
- Invite children to work together using blocks or recyclable materials to build a bridge.
- Encourage testing, rebuilding and trying different ideas. Remind children that it is okay if something does not work the first time.
- Use simple prompts while they build: “What could we try next?”, “How can we make it stronger?” and “Can we use something different?”

4. Reflection & Pack-Up (5 minutes)

- Invite children to test the bridge and send a toy across, making sure everyone who wants a turn can participate.
- Celebrate effort, teamwork and persistence rather than focusing only on whether the bridge worked perfectly.
- Prompt reflection with simple questions: What worked well? What did you try when something was tricky? Did you enjoy working together?

Thank the group and remind children that creative problem solvers try again, think of new ideas and ask for help — just like the teams who work together to help make wishes happen.