imagination CHAPTERS are launching in a town near you!

imagination chapters

a project of imagination foundation
Inspired by ‘Caine’s Arcade’ and following the success of the Global Cardboard Challenge, which has impacted nearly 250,000 children from 60 countries, Imagination Chapters are launching in communities around the world. Locally organized and volunteer-led, Chapters foster creativity, entrepreneurship and 21st century skills through Creative Play.
Chapters follow from the success of our Global Cardboard Challenge, which was named **CHAMPION** in the LEGO Challenge to “Re-imagine Learning.”
Children gather weekly for a couple of hours in places like homes, classrooms, parks and other spaces. Sessions are facilitated by teachers or adult volunteers from all walks of life.

During the meet-up, children **make something** using available resources. Projects are as diverse as a child’s imagination. This is the time to **tinker, play around, experiment**, mess-up & try again.

Children share their creations in a meaningful public context— with parents, friends, their local community or online. The point of sharing is to see that their creations have value to others.

#engineering #makered #play2learn #SEL #STEAM #teamwork #tinker
chapters are based in “creative play”

Creative Play begins with inspiration and culminates in the sharing of an original artifact made by the child using whatever tools and materials are available. In this process, kids open up their minds to what’s possible, take chances, solve problems, collaborate and become better creative thinkers and doers.

Chapters use Creative Play to develop the natural powers of creativity, entrepreneurship and innovation that all children possess. Chapter activities can easily align to different themes, subjects or content standards (e.g., Common Core). The most engaging projects will spark from a child’s interests. Simple projects may take two hours to complete; others may take weeks. As projects become more advanced, kids will tackle real-world issues. They’ll even kickstart business and social ventures.

Though decades of research support the power of Creative Play, it’s important to remember it’s a natural process for children, requiring few resources and little facilitation.
this is what creative play looks like
Chapters are led by people from all walks of life, all over the world. With just a little time each week, and using whatever resources you have available (from recyclables to advanced electronics), you can unleash the creative genius of every child.

In 2014, our Chapters met in schools, museums, libraries, makerspaces and community centers.

who can lead a chapter?

Meet Our Chapter Leaders
Through Imagination Chapters, kids will learn and practice critical skills for the 21st century:

what will kids learn?

- Creativity
- Innovation
- Collaboration
- Problem solving and problem finding
- Question asking
- Taking risks & reframing failure
- Listening & giving feedback
- Persistence
- Critical reflection
- Empathy
- Entrepreneurial/design thinking
- Optimism
Creative Play GHO (Google Hangout) topics include:

- Curiosity & Problem-Finding as 21st Century Skills
- Passion, Inspiration & Genius
- Idea Generation & Divergent Thinking
- Playing, Tinkering & Failing
- Collaboration & Teamwork as 21st Century Skills
- Think Like an Artist/Designer/Engineer/Scientist
- Reflection & Metacognition
- Grit & Perseverance as 21st Century Skills
WHAT’S THE TIME COMMITMENT?

Chapter meet-ups are typically 2 hours each week (or every other week) for 10-20 children. We ask that you commit to one year of activities, which also includes some helpful trainings on Creative Play, 21st century skills and the occasional new tool to take your meet-up to the next level!

WHAT DO I GET FROM IMAGINATION?

We equip you with toolkits, trainings and even cool new gadgets and materials to help make your session awesome. Probably the most enriching part of the experience, in addition to your time with kids, is your participation in a rich, social network of people doing the same thing, all over the world.

ARE CHAPTERS FREE?

For the most part, yes. Though there is a cost to the Imagination Foundation to support and sustain Chapters, we currently rely on contributions from other sources to fund our work. Because Chapters can use simple materials (e.g., cardboard, recyclables, etc.) there is minimal out-of-pocket cost necessary for Chapter leaders.
Amy Fleury, Teacher in Bluffton, SC

“Being part of the Imagination Chapter pilot program has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my teaching career...Ultimately, my students and I have learned to take chances, not only in what we create but also in who we are...we have become a cohesive community of learners and risk takers.

Leading my Chapter has allowed me to connect internationally with other Chapter Leaders who help me become a better educator and leader. Having the support of the Imagination Foundation and Chapter Leaders has taken my teaching to the next level and instilled a renewed love for teaching.”
Gina Silveira, Principal in Santa Rosa, CA

“I really see the connection between our Imagination Club and Maker Ed. Creative play has been the catalyst for getting Maker Ed going at our site. Through Creative Play, the things the students have come up with have opened the doors to more tinkering and an interest in creating things that have meaning to them.

I have been surprised at the relationship between the second graders and their kindergarten buddies who have been joining them in the Club. The work they do is reciprocal, and students are taking on leadership roles at both levels which is so interesting to watch!…We have learned that creativity can be messy, but it is so much fun!”

Kerstin Rao, Teacher in Westport, CT

“I’ve witnessed a dozen middle school kids go from being strangers to becoming supportive and creative kindred spirits. What has meant the most to me is to see how kindness and encouragement grow in each of these children as we try new, challenging, out-of-the-box projects together.”
help us launch 100 new imagination chapters in 2015!

START AN IMAGINATION CHAPTER

APPLY NOW

www.imagination.is/chapters
special thanks

Imagination Chapters are made possible by the generous support of our sponsors, partners and volunteers, including:

- Goldhirsh Foundation
- MattressFirm
- Disney
- The LEGO Foundation
- littleBits
- makedo
- sparkfun® ELECTRONICS
additional resources

To learn more about Imagination Chapters, visit:

www.imagination.is/chapters
www.imagination.is/chapters-faq

For a quick video history of the Imagination Foundation and the work that we do, please watch:

[VIDEO] Caine’s Arcade
[VIDEO] Caine’s Arcade 2: From a Movie to a Movement
Imagine the world we can build!

The mission of the Imagination Foundation is to find, foster and fund creativity and entrepreneurship in children around the world to raise a new generation of innovators and problems solvers who have the tools they need to build the world they imagine.

www.imagination.is