BRAINSTORMING GUIDE

Get ready to get creative!
Here are some ideas for a successful brainstorming session.

Find a space to record everyone’s ideas - whiteboard, flip chart, or document on a projector.

Research shows that brainstorming is most effective when you begin individually. Take a moment to record your own ideas before sharing with the group.

Designate one person to record all the ideas. Challenge your educator advocate to participate only by recording and making sure all ideas come from students.

As you share, be sure to avoid judgment or criticism. You want to get as many ideas as possible from your team members.

Set a goal. Decide to brainstorm for a certain period of time (say, 45 minutes or longer) or until you have a certain number of ideas (maybe 25 or more).

Decide together how to use the ideas you’ve generated.

You might use Bridging the Gap or the project ideas to help you get started.
CHOOSING A PROJECT

YOU HAVE A LOT OF GREAT IDEAS - NOW WHAT?

Try these tips to narrow it down.

• Try to organize the ideas in a way that makes sense. You could try arranging them from short-term to long-term, from most to least expensive, or based on similarity of topic.

• Keep an eye out for ideas that can be combined.

• Compare your ideas to the inspired Project List and Project Cards on the next pages.

• Give special attention to the ideas that seem original - often these can become unique inspired Projects!