Growth Mindset Brainstorming Activity
Facilitator's Guide

Time: 60-75 minutes

Purpose: This activity is designed to help workshop or study group participants integrate what they have learned about growth mindset – either through attending a presentation or by going through the online growth mindset modules on the MindsetKit.org – into their classroom or school practices.

Materials Needed
- 1 copy per person - Implementation Planning Worksheet (available on the Mindset Kit)
- one pad of 3"x3" Post-Its per person
- one pen per person (and a few extra just in case)

Group size – This guide is framed for a workshop of any size where participants would sit in table groups of 4-8 participants per table.

Preparation
- Place the materials on each table prior to participants arriving

Steps
- Table discussion – (10 min) Have participants discuss their reactions to what they have learned with their table group and explore these questions (having questions up on a PP slide can be helpful):
  - Is there a specific problem in your class or school which you want to address?
  - Are there things you (or your teachers) are already doing that could be expanded on or modified in some way?
  - What new practices do you want to try, or have your teachers try, that you think would have the biggest impact?
  - What change would you hope to see?
- Brainstorm – (5 min)
  - On the Post-Its placed at each table, have each participant write as many ideas as they can think of for implementing changes in their class or at their school.
  - Tell them not to censor themselves or shy away from thinking big.
  - Ideas should be very short and including a picture is always good.
- Share Ideas – (15 min) Explain how sharing and voting will work so they understand the overall idea.
  - Have each participant take a turn sharing their ideas with their table group. Since the Post-It may only have a few words, they should elaborate as needed to convey the idea to the group. Others can ask clarifying questions, as needed.
  - As each idea is shared, the Post-It should be placed in a location that is visible for the whole group (either on the table or on a section of wall or window).
- Grouping Like Ideas – (2 min) After all the participants have shared their ideas, spend a couple of minutes grouping similar ideas together.
• **Vote on Ideas** – (5 min)
  o After all participants have shared, participants get to vote on their top 3 picks by placing a check on their favorite ideas.
  o Things to consider when voting:
    ■ Feasibility – How easy is it to implement? Are there any potential obstacles?
    ■ Viability – How likely is it to produce the intended outcome?
    ■ Impact – If it succeeds, how big will the impact be?

• **Planning** – (10 min)
  o Participants can work in teams or individually as appropriate.
  o Pick one idea to refine and create an implementation plan using the worksheet. It may be the one that received the highest votes, but not necessarily. The individual/teams will be the best judge of what will work best in their class or school.
  o Use chart paper to write up a description and include:
    ■ What would implementation look like?
    ■ What change do you intend to produce?
    ■ What indicators would let you know you were successful?

• **Large Group Share** – (10-20 min depending on group size)
  o Each participant or team shares what they came up with.
  o Allow a few minutes for Q&A with person/team that is sharing.

• **Debrief** – (5 min) Invite feedback on the process
  ■ What was most useful?
  ■ Was anything confusing?
  ■ Any questions?

For more free resources and suggestions, visit the Mindset Kit at

[www.mindsetkit.org](http://www.mindsetkit.org)