The Two Sides of Nurturing Innovation in the Classroom

**ENCOURAGE GROUP COLLABORATION**
Innovation can thrive when students work together to build on each other's ideas and brainstorm new solutions.

**ALLOW TIME FOR INDIVIDUAL FOCUS**
Sometimes, students need time alone to concentrate in order to refine and elaborate on an innovative idea.

**VALUE STUDENTS’ ORIGINAL IDEAS**
Giving students opportunities to share their unique ideas validates their thinking and encourages them to continue creating.

**SHARE EXPERTS’ CREATIVE THINKING**
Learning about the creative work of others can lead students in directions they otherwise may not have explored.

**MOTIVATE THROUGH RECOGNITION**
By celebrating their successful solutions and engaging creations, we can inspire students to experiment further.

**CELEBRATE FAILURES AND MISTAKES**
Acknowledging the beneficial learning that happens when ideas don’t work out encourages students to keep trying.

**MAKE IT REAL**
If students are challenged to address the real problems they see in everyday life, they will be invested in finding innovative solutions.

**LET IMAGINATION SOAR**
Children have amazing imaginations with few limitations and giving them space to dream can lead to amazing ideas and inventions.

**EMBRACE NEW TECHNOLOGIES**
Innovation is often linked to technology and students can benefit from using technological tools to explore their innovative ideas.

**CONNECT WITH NATURE**
Time spent outdoors and away from screens is needed to refresh students’ sense of well-being and encourage imaginative rather than structured play.

**PERSONALIZE LEARNING**
Customizing learning for each student’s strengths, needs, and interests establishes a learning environment that supports their best thinking.

**TRY OUT VARIOUS APPROACHES**
Opportunities to experiment outside their comfort zone may prompt students to explore new avenues of thought that can lead to innovation.