# 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.

but also

## **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.

but also

# 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.

but also

#### **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.

but also

#### **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.

but also

## **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.

but also

## **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.

