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Workshop Script: "Scrappies: Unleashing Creativity with Scrap Materials"

Target Audience: Teachers of children aged 6-12

Workshop Duration: 4 hours

Objectives:

- To equip teachers with practical strategies for integrating creative reuse into their existing curriculum.
- To provide a variety of engaging and age-appropriate activities for children using scrap materials.
- To foster creativity, problem-solving skills, and an appreciation for resourcefulness.

Materials:

- Whiteboard or projector
- Flip chart paper, pens
- Handouts (activity ideas, SNAPs, etc.) - can be pdf shared online
- A wide variety of scrap materials:
    - Cardboard boxes, egg cartons, plastic bottles, milk jugs
    - Fabric scraps, buttons, yarn, ribbons
    - Newspaper, magazines, junk mail
    - Natural materials (twigs, leaves, pine cones)
    - Broken toys, old electronics
- Art supplies (glue, tape, scissors, paint, markers, crayons)

Workshop Schedule:

Morning Session (2 hours)

1. Introduction (15 minutes)

- **Icebreaker:** "Junk Art Masterpiece" - Participants share a childhood memory of creating something from found objects.
- **Introductions:** Brief round of introductions, sharing names, grade level, and teaching experience.
- **Workshop Overview:** Briefly outline the objectives and agenda for the day.

2. Exploring Creative Reuse (45 minutes)

- **The "Scrappies" Philosophy:**
    - Discuss the importance of reducing waste and finding new uses for discarded materials.
    - Brainstorming session: Benefits of using scrap materials in the classroom (e.g., creativity, problem-solving, resourcefulness, environmental awareness).
- **Connecting Scrappies to the Curriculum:**
    - Brainstorming session: How to integrate scrap material projects into different subjects (e.g., science, math, language arts, social studies, art).

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- Examples:
  - **Science:** Building models (e.g., volcanoes from bottles, animal habitats from boxes), exploring forces and motion with recycled materials.
  - **Math:** Measuring, sorting, patterning with recycled objects.
  - **Language Arts:** Writing stories inspired by scrap creations, creating puppet shows with recycled characters.
  - **Social Studies:** Learning about different cultures and their use of recycled materials.
  - **Art:** Creating sculptures, collages, and wearable art from found objects.

3. Hands-on Activity 1: "The "Scrappies" Challenge"

- **Energizer: "**this is not a … (eg.stick), but a… (eg.sword)" - hold the object and hand over to the other person, who shall have another idea what that coud be - then "use" the item (eg. swing the sword)
- **Individual/Small Group Challenge:** Participants are given a limited amount of scrap materials and a short timeframe to create something.
- **Possible Challenges:**
  - Build a tower that can withstand a gentle breeze.
  - Create a wearable piece of art.
  - Design a miniature world using only recycled materials.
- **Sharing and Reflection:** Participants share their creations and discuss the challenges and successes of the activity.

Afternoon Session (2 hours)

4. "SNAPS" in Action: Classroom Projects (1 hour)

- **Project Ideas & Inspiration:**
  - Share a variety of existing SNAPs and show how they are structured
- **Finding and Collecting Materials:**
  - Discuss strategies for collecting and storing scrap materials in the classroom.
  - Encourage participants to involve their students / parents / school workers in the collection process.

5. Planning for Implementation (1 hour)

- **Developing a new SNAP:**
  - Participants work in small groups to develop a "Scrappies" project for their students. (if you have 6 or less participants, they shall work in pairs)
  - Consider:
    - Grade level
    - Subject area
    - Learning objectives
    - Materials needed
    - Project timeline (1-2 lessons long or a series of lessons?)
- **Sharing and Feedback:**
  - Participants share their project plans with the group and provide constructive feedback.

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6. Conclusion (15 minutes)

- **Wrap-up:** Summarize key takeaways from the "Scrappies" workshop.
- **Evaluation:** Brief evaluation of the workshop - use emotion cards to assist or build a picture on a paper from small items: How do you feel? What is your takeaway?
- **Networking:** Encourage participants to exchange contact information and continue the conversation.

Note: This is a sample script and can be adapted to fit your specific needs and the interests of the participating teachers. You may also want to include additional activities, resources, and guest speakers to make the workshop more engaging and informative.

Remember to:

- Create a welcoming and supportive learning environment.
- Encourage active participation and collaboration.
- Provide opportunities for hands-on learning and creativity.
- Tailor the content to the specific needs and interests of the participants.

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