

A Toolkit to Help Students Generate Changemaking Ideas that can be entered into the Changemaker Challenge hosted by T-Mobile and Ashoka

Included in this Toolkit:

1. Activity with instructions
2. Worksheet for students
3. Additional resources & opportunities for students

Activity Length:

- 45 minutes
- Shorten to 30 minutes if you take out the individual brainstorm and simply move into the group exercise.

Materials Needed:

- For each student, pencil/pen & worksheet (pg. 4)
- For you (the teacher/facilitator) white board or chart paper & marker

Things to Know:

- This is a very basic activity to get your youth generating ideas around how to solve a social problem. Most youth need continued support to build out their idea and bring it to life.
- Ashoka has been working with youth to develop their own youth-led ideas for social change for 20 years and has worked in 37 countries around the world. Our hope is to give as many young people as possible the opportunity to realize their power to create change in the world.
- This is all about being youth-led and initiated. Let the youth you work with struggle and support one another through the activity rather than stepping in with an adult voice.
- If you have young people who are passionate enough to make their idea a reality through the T-Mobile/Ashoka Changemaker Challenge, make sure they meet the following criteria:
 - They are between the ages of 13-23
 - Their idea is youth-led and initiated
 - They have a team (minimum of 2 people per team)
 - Their idea is not a one-off project but one that they are willing and able to sustain for at least one year
 - For a full list of criteria visit here: <https://www.t-mobile.com/changemaker>

About the Changemaker Challenge and Prizes:

Ashoka and T-Mobile have partnered to launch the Changemaker Challenge to identify and support young people who are creating solutions to challenges in their own community or a community they have a personal connection to. Selected teams with winning ideas or projects will get an all-expenses paid trip to Seattle for a two-day intensive Changemaker Lab workshop focused on collaboration, skills development, and increasing impact hosted at T-Mobile's Headquarters. In addition, teams will receive new LG G Pad X2 8.0 Plus tablets and significant seed funding and publicity to support their projects.



Passions & Problems:

A 45-Minute Activity to Generate Changemaking Ideas

Purpose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To help students generate social change ideas that use their passions to solve the problems they see in their community. To guide students on how to submit ideas in Changemaker Challenge. 	
Prep: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Print a copy of the worksheet (pg. 4) for each student or simply have them make their own columns on a piece of paper. OPTIONAL: Watch introductory video about activity (3 minutes): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-wuZv2NJ9c 	
Activity	Minutes (suggested)
<p><i>With the entire class/group, draw two columns on a white board or flip chart paper and label them "Problems & Passions".</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why passions? – At Ashoka, we know that the most successful venture teams are those who are using their passion to solve an issue. As humans, passion drives us more than money or fame. If we can have a young person apply their passion to solving a problem, they are sure to succeed and enjoy themselves at the same time. 	1 min
<p><i>Ask the entire group to shout out problems they see in their community.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If the problems they come up with are too broad try to have them break them down. For example, if they say "poverty," have students break the problem down by describing the issue. Often times, the words they use to describe massive issues are smaller issues themselves. A great question to get them thinking about it is to ask, "What does poverty look like?" or "What are some components of poverty that you see on a daily basis?" This will force them to think about the root cause of the issue. Another sure-fire way to get problems narrowed down is to have them focus on problems in school. The more narrow the issue and closer to home, the better. 	3 min



<p><i>Now ask them to shout out passions they have and write them down in the second column.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have students brainstorm things they love to do in their spare time. What are they passionate about? What could they not live without? What makes them light up when they talk about it? If they could do only one thing for the rest of their lives, what would that be? 	3 min
<p><i>Ask them to link a problem with a passion to come up with a venture idea they could launch.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For example if a problem that was listed is “Gang Violence” and a passion they had was “Dancing,” they could decide to start a venture that provides youth with dance classes as a way of expressing their emotions instead of violence. • TIP: Make sure that their project ideas are realistic. In the example above, students could come up with an idea to start a brick and mortar community dance school and counselors for every dancer. Keep it simple and realistic. 	3 min
<p><i>Now pass out the worksheets, one per student.</i> <i>Ask students to individually make a list of the problems they see in their community and/or school and write them in the “Problems” column.</i></p>	5 min
<p><i>Ask students to make a list of the passions they have and write them in the “Passions” column.</i></p>	5 min
<p><i>Ask students to link a problem with a passion to come up with as many ideas as possible.</i></p>	5 min
<p><i>Now divide class in groups of 3-5 students.</i></p> <p><i>Ask students to share their problems/passions and ideas they developed.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let students know that if they didn’t come up with an idea in the time allotted, it’s not a problem! Now they have a team to work with where they can build ideas together. • Tell them they might even want to come up with a few totally new ideas based off of the problems and passions they hear or by combining two of the ideas that were shared together. <p><i>Give a five-minute warning and tell students to come up with three of the top ideas they might want to move forward with and then vote to narrow it to one.</i></p>	10 min
<p><i>Ask students to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name their project idea • Write a short description of their project idea • Write the first three steps they would need to take to launch their idea 	10 min

Extra Exercise if Time Permits:

Have students develop a 1-minute commercial/play for their project idea or simply present their idea to the class.



Passions & Problems: Student Worksheet

Name: _____

Passions	Problems in my community
Think about things you enjoy to do. What is the first thing you do when you get home from school? What do you like to do on the weekend? What activities or sports do you and your friends do? What hobbies do you have?	What are some problems you see in your school? Town? City? Country? Across the world? What problems do you see in your community? What makes you upset? What would you like to see fixed in the world?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cooking• Dancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Low graduation rates• Gang Violence

Now, try and match three of your passions with three of the problems you have listed to come up with a project that will benefit your community.

Example: Dancing + Gang Violence Idea: Providing youth with dance classes as a way of expressing their emotions instead of violence.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____



Additional Resources & Opportunities for Students

Apply to the T-Mobile / Ashoka Changemaker Challenge! <https://www.t-mobile.com/changemaker>

Videos of other youth teams who have created change in their community:

- Zander(US): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=crgigKSBrPw>
- What's good in the hood (US): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Eu-mDFo_VRg
- Ennis (US): <https://vimeo.com/80644743>
- Kylee (US): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bh5USI8Ofk8>
- Sink of Swim: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AutXkRKwwrw>
- Judy (US): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PHjwx7-4yWE>
- Presant (India): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-OKK48eeXXs>

How to Videos:

- SMART Goals: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3y0Jja52B2o>
- Budget: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4j2zVwm2ROU>
- Vision and Mission: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_eQ139stW6w
- Choosing a Topic: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O-wuZv2NJ9c>
- Fundraising: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79CK-C4-Jhw>
- Recruiting Volunteers: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zBDsxPFbqN8>

