

## **Creative Problem Solving Exercises**

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Pick an everyday object, like a pen or ruler, and have your team think up as many different uses for an object as possible. Write these up on the board or on a large paper pad. The ability to think of creative ways to see everyday objects will help the students see creative ways to build their robot. This activity may be done with the whole team or with smaller teams.

Pick two everyday objects, like a fire hydrant and a riding lawn mower. Write them on the top of a piece of poster board. Ask the team members what the objects have in common or what would you have if you combined them into one device. In the example: they might both be red, they both sit out in your lawn; if you combine them you have a mower that also waters your lawn or a small mobile fire truck for grass fires. Pick any two objects that do not have obvious connections. This exercise is intended to encourage free association and team brainstorming.