Ages: 9-11

10 ways to cool down tea

5 min



What to do:

1. «The tea is too hot. How many ways to cool it can you think of?»
2. Listen - let them name 5, 10, 15. All are accepted.
3. Then - ask the main question: «And which way is the MOST optimal? Why? By what criteria did you choose?»
4. Introduce the concepts: fast / convenient / without losing flavor / without extra objects.

Try this too:

«And if you were given a fridge + 30 seconds - which way would you choose? And if 5 minutes - but no fridge?»

On repeat in 4 months:

«We had a task about tea. Here's a new one: how to get a ball to the basketball hoop if you can't come closer than 3 meters. How many ways? Which is best?»

What we practised:

«This is the shift from „many options" to „choosing the optimum". Great inventors first generate 100 ideas, then pick the 1-2 best. That is exactly engineering.»