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LEARNING BENEFIT: BUILDING CREATIVE IMAGINATION

 In every Bugs Bunny Builders story, the Looney crew builds something new - the loonier the better! As fun as it is to watch Bugs and Lola concoct their creations, did you know they are also building a powerful skill as they construct? Creative imagination!

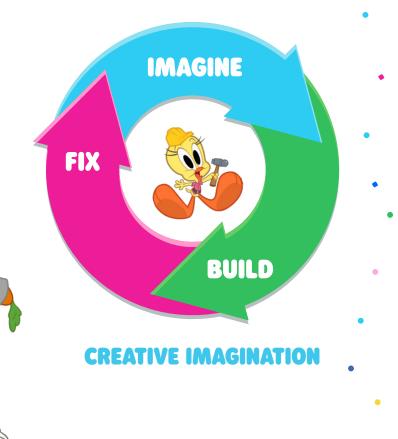
Creative imagination is a combination of imagination + creativity. Imagination helps us envision a new possibility and creativity expands our thinking. With creative imagination, a child pretends a colander is

 a space helmet and adults invent things that never existed before – computers, bridges, great stories.

We asked Cartoonito's creativity expert, Dr. Ron Beghetto, the Pinnacle West Presidential Chair and Professor in the Mary Lou Fulton Teachers College at Arizona State University, to explain how Bugs Bunny Builders and you can encourage your child's creative imagination. Read on for tips before and after viewing.

QUESTION: WHAT IS CREATIVE IMAGINATION?

Dr. Beghetto: Creative imagination is what we use to come-up with new possibilities (**imagine**), bring new possibilities to life (**build**), and improve upon what we have made (**fix**). Creative imagination is a driving force in our children's and adult's learning and life.



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CREATIVE IMAGINATION ON BUGS BUNNY BUILDERS

WHAT WERE SOME OF YOUR FAVORITE EXAMPLES OF CREATIVE IMAGINATION ON BUGS BUNNY BUILDERS?

Episode "Splash Zone"

Dr. Beghetto: The Looney Builders were asked to make a water slide. The builders started by imagining what kind of water slide the community would like. The Team brainstormed, adding each idea to the design, and then established a plan they all agreed on.

This is an excellent example of the **IMAGINE** step of the process. The characters think about the possibilities and recognize the importance of discussing the plan rather than just moving ahead with the changes.





Episode "Tweety-Go-Round"

Dr. Beghetto: Tweety, the smallest Looney teammate, is having trouble finding a way to contribute to the building of a merry-go-round. But when Tweety sees a mouse having trouble getting onto the merry-go-round, he gets a creative idea based on his personal experience. He can **BUILD** a new section of the merry-go-round with seats for "even the smallest looney-burgers". Tweety demonstrates that imagining little creative changes can make a big difference.



Episode "Snow Cap"

Dr. Beghetto: In this episode the crew must build a house for a penguin. At first, they think she wants a "really coooool" house and design a house with all kinds of gadgets. But then they realize she wants a "cool" house (a cold one because she's a penguin)!

The crew reimagine their design. They have creative confidence in their ability to **FIX** the problem. They also consider potential setbacks with their new design – a house made of ice (e.g., sun melting the ice) and evaluate how they can prevent problems. Imagination helps them do all of this – envision the pitfalls and find the solution.

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BE A BUGS BUNNY BUILDER!

PLAY WHILE WATCHING: BE A BUGS BUNNY BUILDER!

Watch an episode of Bugs Bunny Builders with your child and ask these questions before and after

BEFORE WATCHING

- 1. Read the title of the episode
- 2. Ask: What do you think the Bugs Bunny Builders will make? What do you think it will look like? Is there anything that might not work? How could the Bugs Bunny Builders fix that?

AFTER WATCHING

- 1. Ask your child to tell you what the builders made (remind them if they can't remember)
- 2. Say: Let's pretend we're part of the Bugs Bunny Builders! What's a different way we might build what they made?
- 3. Ask: What if we tried drawing or building it ourselves right here? What should we use? Brainstorm with your child what you might use to build. Pull out some blocks, toys, whatever you find.
- 4. When you've finished, ask: Is there something we should change about what we built? How can we change it?

