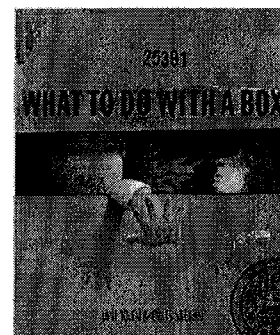




## Beattie Elementary School's *Most Magnificent Thing* School Project!



December, 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As you may be aware, this is the first year Beattie Elementary School will be implementing the new curriculum in B.C. While there are many new aspects of this curriculum, in this first year schools are 'starting small' and focusing on one or two areas. Here at Beattie a key focus for this year will be on **Critical Thinking**, one of the core competencies of the new curriculum. Critical thinking skills -- the need to think deeper and differently about a subject -- are important qualities to instill in children to help them navigate through their learning and their lives. Critical thinking skills will help students learn to interpret and understand information, rather than simply memorizing it.

The three phases of critical thinking are:

- **Analyze** – *reflect on and evaluate thinking, products and actions*
- **Question** – *explore materials and actions*
- **Develop** – *design and experiment with different ways of doing things*

Beginning on **Wednesday, January 11, 2017**, we will launch our critical thinking focus with a school project called **Beattie's Most Magnificent Thing**. Students will be designing 'magnificent things' out of empty boxes, practicing the stages of critical thinking along the way.

**We need your help** in collecting supplies for this project.

1) Please donate **craft supplies** to any of the *Magnificent Thing* boxes around the school or to your child's teacher. Spools, cardboard tubes, small wood pieces, sequins, pom poms, ribbon....the possibilities are endless!

2) Most importantly, **empty BOXES!** These can be ANY shape or size - from shoebox, to tissue box, to match box to TV box! You may wish to set aside some boxes from Christmas for this purpose. Send your child with **at least one empty box with their name on it**. Students are responsible for bringing their own boxes, and they must be at school by **Tuesday, January 10th**.



Thank you for your support!  
The Beattie Elementary Staff

