ECIER FOUNDATION

# Innovation Lab: Problems Worth Solving

FACILITATOR'S GUIDE



2 module









# By the close of the module, students will:

- Understand how entrepreneurs view problems as opportunities.
- Identify a problem they would like to solve by developing a product or service.
- Understand the components of the Lean Business Canvas.

Ma	aterials Checklist				
	Module 2 PowerPoint		Tape	Timer	
	Student Guide (1 p/student)		String	Measuring Tape	
	Sign-In Sheet		Spaghetti noodles	Problem Worth Solving Handout	
	Name Tags		Jumbo marshmallows	Lean Canvas Handout	
	Pens		Scissors		
	Student Evaluation Form		Gallon Ziplock Bag		
	<b>V Technology Ne</b> Laptop		or screen	☐ Internet Access	
	Projector		speakers]	Internet Access	
Vi	deo Links				
	"Lean Canvas Example: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2nW9lg-fenY				
	Vegetarian Restaurar	nt"			



# **Module Outline**

10 min	Introductions Facilitator introduces himself/herself (name, occupation, etc.). Eagrade.	<b>Lead : Facilitator</b> ach student shares their name and
40 min	Icebreaker: Marshmallow Challenge  This icebreaker challenges students to problem solve a seemingle dynamic.	<b>Lead : Facilitator</b> ly impossible challenge within a team
10 min	<ul> <li>Problem = Opportunity</li> <li>Entreprenuers view problems as opportunities</li> <li>Greener Globe</li> </ul>	Lead : Facilitator
5 min	Break	Lead : Facilitator
45 min	<ul> <li>Do You Have a Problem Worth Solving?</li> <li>Partner Activity: A Problem Worth Solving</li> <li>Video: Lean Canvas Example: Vegetarian Restaurant</li> </ul>	Lead : Facilitator
10 min	Closing Remarks  • Final questions • Student evaluation • Upcoming events/meetings/reminders	Lead : Facilitator



# **Icebreaker: The Marshmallow Challenge**

#### 40 minutes

### Slides: 2

#### Instructions

This icebreaker challenges students to problem solve a seemingly impossible challenge within a team dynamic.

- 1) Prior to the session, pack a Resource Kit for each team. The kit includes 20 sticks of spaghetti, 1 yard of tape, 1 yard of string, 1 jumbo marshmallow, and 1 pair of scissors in a gallon size Ziplock Bag.
- 2) Divide the students into teams of four.
- 3) Instruct each team to unpack the Resource Kit and read aloud the supplies included.
- 4) Read the instructions.
- 5) Set the timer for 18 minutes and instruct the teams to begin.
- 6) At the close of the 18 minutes, measure the structures to determine which team built the tallest structure supporting the marshmallow on top.
- 7) Discuss with the students their experience attempting to meet the challenge.
- 8) Inform the students entrepreneurs see every problem as an opportunity to create something great.

# Marshmallow Challenge \*\*Resource Kit\*\* - 20 sticks of spaghetti - 1 yard of tape - 1 yard of drang - 1 pumb ormanimation - 1 pumb

Slide No. 2

# Problem = Opportunity

#### 10 minutes

#### Slide 3

#### Facilitator Script

"Entrepreneurs see opportunities when others see problems. For example, do you ever have something happen during your day that annoys you? Do you ever think to yourself, "I wonder if I can fix that problem?."

A college student had a roommate that took 20-minute showers. The student believed that showers should take 5-10 minutes or less. Could anything be done to encourage the roommate to take a shorter shower, saving valuable water?"



Slide No. 3



# **Problem = Opportunity**

# 10 minutes

#### Slide 3

#### **Facilitator Script**

Yes! A couple years ago a group of teens in Ireland started a company called Greener Globe. These teens created a color coding system to remind people that when six minutes elapsed, the color turned green for a minute. After another two minutes, the water color turned amber (as in yield!). The final minute, the water turned red (as in stop!).



Slide No. 3

"Leaders in the community want teens to graduate from high school who are creative and innovative problem solvers."

# Do You Have a Problem Worth Solving?

# **45** minutes

# **Slide 4**Facilitator Script

"In just a moment, you and a partner will work together to create a product solution to a problem you would love to solve.

# **Team Activity: A Problem Worth Solving**

#### Instructions

- 1) Provide each student with a copy of the "Problem Worth Solving" handout.
- 2) Instruct the students to find a partner for the exercise.
- 3) Explain to students how to populate the handout.
- 4) Give each team thirty minutes to complete the handout.
- 5) Allow the teams to share their results



Slide No. 4



# **Lean Canvas Example**

# **Video: Lean Canvas Example Vegetarian Restaurant**

#### **Instructions**

- 1) Give each student one copy of the Lean Canvas Example handout.
- 2) Ask students to populate the handout as they watch the video.
- 3) Discuss the key learning of the video.



Slide No. 5