

Type II Enrichment

Critical Thinking Activity

Take a Contrary Position to a Common Proverb

(*A Whack on the Side of the Head* by Roger Van Oech, 2008)

Activity

Choose a **proverb** from the list below, explain its **meaning**, and provide a positive **example** of its application. Next, provide the **opposing position** and a positive **illustration** of the opposing position.

- Business before pleasure.
- Every cloud has a silver lining.
- Look before you leap.
- Don't put all your eggs in one basket.
- As you make your bed, so you must lie in it.
- Patience is a virtue.
- Haste makes waste.
- He who laughs last laughs best.
- Curiosity killed the cat.
- Beauty is only skin deep.
- You can't teach an old dog new tricks.
- If at first you don't succeed, try, try, again.

Example

- **Proverb:** Cross the stream where it is shallowest.
- **Meaning:** Don't make difficulties for yourself by doing things the hard way. Find the simplest means of achieving your object.
- **Example:** Let's just find a spot that you can pull right in to, so you don't have to worry about parallel parking.
- **Contrary position:** Never cross the stream where it is shallowest.
- **Explanation:** Isn't it good to sometimes do things the hard way? Doing things the hard way can provide opportunities to learn new skills and have new experiences that can help later on. For example, you need to know how to parallel park!