

HOW TO BE A GREAT GAME MASTER **GM NOTES** 

## **Quick Hacks to Growing Your Imagination**

Full video link: https://youtu.be/9fg2uAH8SnU

Today we are talking about your imagination. Imagination is based on 4 principles which can be practiced and developed over time.

The 4 principles of imagination are:

- Experience
  - Just living counts, but using it counts for more.
  - Awareness is key take your experiences and be aware of your emotions and responses. Remember them!
  - Draw upon experience to create real-life responses and reactions on the fly.
- Research
  - Learn more about different stuff.
  - This is something that you can actively do, but its also something that we do passively all the time.
  - Something as simple as watching a documentary on TV can be enough research to provide you with material to use in your games.
  - Pay attention to what you are watching and understand how it works. Then you can apply it to other stuff.
- Freeform association
  - Linking different things together. Take things that seem to not have anything in common with each other and link them together.
  - Build your narrative out of this by using your research to understand why these things would be linked together, and then use your experience to tell the emotional journey.
  - Link stuff to stuff the links make the stuff interesting, that's where the fun is.
- Inspiration
  - Stick a giant banana into it! Kickstart your inspiration with this.



- Giant banana for the win! Where, what, why, when, who and how did it get there?
- This allows you to come up with a bunch of different solutions to a problem, and then you can use your freeform association to link these ideas together and help you with your original idea.

We can see now that these 4 components of imagination are powerful tools to developing your imagination. They can each be practiced and used to help you develop your imagination and in turn amazing adventures.

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