

SCORING CRITERIA - Problem Solving and Critical Thinking

Description: Students will demonstrate Problem Solving and Critical Thinking by applying processes to define problems, evaluating possible outcomes, and persevering in solving complex problems. Students will be able to...

Performance Indicator:	Beginning	Developing	Proficient	Expanding
1. Observe, identify and analyze a problem.	Make observations about a problem or situation.	Describe the problem and identify the parts of the problem.	Summarize the problem, identify variables, and analyze how elements of the situation define the problem.	Evaluate the relevance and importance of elements that define the problem and limit the solutions.

Performance Indicator:	Beginning	Developing	Proficient	Expanding
2. Identify, collect and analyze relevant information.	Find information in sources provided and describe the information/data gathered.	List resources relevant to the plan or process of approach, identify simple patterns and trends in information/data, and determine whether information is sufficient or if more is needed.	Identify relevant information/data from resources and analyze patterns and trends to identify relationships.	Identify information/data crucial to the problem and identify and prioritize patterns and trends in information/data most relevant to the problem.

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3. Generate options and provide reasoning for a plan or approach to solve a problem.	Identify and choose a potential plan or process of approach from a list of possibilities.	Identify opportunities for new thinking or creative problem-solving. Generate a plan or process of approach.	Describe opportunities for new thinking or creative problem-solving using resources and design procedures. Generate a range of plans or processes of approach, select one and support the chosen plan or approach with information/data.	Analyze opportunities for new thinking or creative problem-solving using resources and design procedures needed for collecting, managing, and analyzing information. Generate a range of possible solutions that do not simply borrow from past examples and select and justify a chosen solution using evidence from an analysis of the options.

Performance Indicator:	Beginning	Developing	Proficient	Expanding
4. Implement a plan or process of approach using tools and information.	Identify tools to solve a problem.	Identify a range of appropriate tools to help solve a problem and begin to implement a plan or process of approach.	Utilize information, appropriate tools, and/or technology strategically to implement a plan or process of approach to provide a potential solution or product.	Demonstrate creativity and innovation in selection and use of tools and anticipate and address possible implementation challenges.

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5. Show flexibility and persist through frustrations; continue to revise a plan or process of approach in order to arrive at a viable solution.	Identify a strategy that could be used to overcome an obstacle in problem solving.	Make an attempt to reach a viable solution by applying a strategy.	Make multiple attempts, persisting as needed, to reach a viable solution by applying and adjusting varied strategies and approaches.	Make multiple attempts, if needed, until an effective solution is reached by applying, evaluating and adjusting strategies and approaches.

Performance Indicator:	Beginning	Developing	Proficient	Expanding
6. Evaluate, justify and defend the relative effectiveness of the plan or process of approach.	Describe the data/information gathered from plan or approach and state whether the plan or process of approach was effective.	Identify relationships in data/information gathered from plan or approach and describe whether the plan or process of approach was effective.	Analyze patterns and trends to identify relationships in data/information gathered from the plan or approach and to evaluate the effectiveness of the plan or approach.	Justify a data collection strategy by analyzing strengths and weaknesses and critiquing the potential effectiveness of a range of solutions with consideration of real-life constraints.