

THE VENTURES INITIATIVE AND FOCUS® SYSTEM OF STRUCTURED THINKING

STRUCTURED THINKING SKILLS

COMPREHENSION SKILLS

Purpose: To understand the significant characteristics of key concepts and to draw interpretations or inferences about them.

- Defining
- Describing



ANALYTIC THINKING SKILLS

Purpose: To understand how significant concepts or processes are interrelated.

- Examining Similarities and Differences
- Analyzing the Parts of a Whole
- Grouping
- Categorizing
- Ordering by Time
- Ordering by Occurrence
- Ordering by Rank
- Supporting a Conclusion: Examining My Conclusion
- Supporting a Conclusion: Examining an Author's Conclusion



EVALUATIVE THINKING SKILLS

Purpose: To evaluate conclusions or actions based on principles of sound reasoning and reliable information.

- Evaluating a Decision
- Making a Prediction
- Evaluating a Prediction
- Uncovering Assumptions
- Evaluating a Conclusion based on Reasons and Assumptions
- Determining Cause and Effect
- Evaluating Causality
- Identifying a Causal Chain
- Evaluating a Source



PRODUCTIVE THINKING SKILLS

Purpose: To create original expressions of learned material.

- Generating Ideas
- Interpreting an Analogy or Metaphor
- Creating an Analogy or Metaphor
- Making a Decision



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AND EFFECTIVE LIFELONG LEARNING

METHODS

CONSTRUCTIVE COMMUNICATION

- Thinking Aloud Paired Problem Solving
- Effective Group Process
- Assessing Prior Knowledge

STRUCTURED THINKING SKILLS AND PROCESSES

- Making thinking explicit
- Problem-Based Learning (PBL)
- Graphic organization of information
- Metacognitive questioning
- Incorporating Structured Thinking Skills into Problem-Based Learning (PBL) and Structured Project Learning (SPL)

COMPREHENSION AND EXPRESSION

- Visualization
- Comprehension and expression of Structured Thinking
- Literacy (Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening)
- Informational Literacy
- Literature Circles
- Composition Skills
- Literature Study
- Mathematical Thinking

ORGANIZATION AND PLANNING

- Academic Preparedness Skills
- Self Assessment
- Test Preparation
- Structured Project Learning (SPL)

