

CMEC Pan-Canadian Global Competencies Descriptions

Critical Thinking and Problem Solving

Definition

Critical thinking and problem solving involve addressing complex issues and problems by acquiring, processing, analysing and interpreting information to make informed judgments and decisions. The capacity to engage in cognitive processes to understand and resolve problems includes the willingness to achieve one's potential as a constructive and reflective citizen. Learning is deepened when situated in meaningful, realworld, authentic experiences.

Innovation, Creativity, and Entrepreneurship

Definition

Innovation, creativity, and entrepreneurship involve the ability to turn ideas into action to meet the needs of a community. The capacity to enhance concepts, ideas, or products to contribute new-to-the-world solutions to complex economic, social, and environmental problems involves leadership, taking risks, independent/unconventional thinking and experimenting with new strategies, techniques, or perspectives, through inquiry research.

Entrepreneurial mindsets and skills involve a focus on building and scaling an idea sustainably.

Learning to Learn / Self-Awareness and Self- Direction

Definition

Learning to learn and to be self-directed and self-aware, means: becoming aware and demonstrating agency in one's process of learning, including the development of dispositions that support motivation, perseverance, resilience, and self-regulation. Belief in one's ability to learn (growth mindset), combined with strategies for planning, monitoring and reflecting on one's past, present, and future goals, potential actions and strategies, and results.

Self-reflection and thinking about thinking (metacognition) promote lifelong learning, adaptive capacity, well-being, and transfer of learning in an ever-changing world.

Student Descriptors

Students will solve meaningful, real-life, complex problems by taking concrete steps to address issues and design and manage projects.

Students will engage in an inquiry process to solve problems as well as acquire, process, interpret, synthesize, and critically analyse information to make informed decisions (i.e., critical and digital literacy).

Students will see patterns, make connections, and transfer what they have learned from one situation to another, including in real world applications.

Students will construct, relate, and apply knowledge to all domains of life such as school, home, work, friends, and community.

Students will analyze the functions and interconnections of social, economic, and ecological systems.

Student Descriptors

Students formulate and express insightful questions and opinions to generate novel ideas.

Students contribute solutions to complex economic, social, and environmental problems or to meet a need in a community in a number of ways including; enhancing concepts, ideas, or products through a creative process, taking risks in their thinking and creating, discovering through inquiry research, and by hypothesizing and experimenting with new strategies or techniques.

Students demonstrate leadership, initiative, imagination, creativity, spontaneity, and ingenuity in a range of creative processes and motivate others with an ethical entrepreneurial spirit.

Student Descriptors

Students learn the process of learning (metacognition) (e.g., independence, goal-setting, motivation) and believe in their ability to learn and grow (growth mindset).

Students self-regulate in order to become lifelong learners and reflect on their thinking, experience, values, and critical feedback to enhance their learning. They also monitor the progress of their own learning.

Students develop their identity in the Canadian context (e.g., origin and diversity) and consider their connection to the environment. They cultivate emotional intelligence to understand themselves and others. They take the past into account to understand the present and approach the future.

Students develop personal, educational, and career goals and persevere to overcome challenges to reach goals. They adapt to change and show resilience to adversity.

Students manage various aspects of their life: physical, emotional (relationships, self-awareness), spiritual, and mental well-being.



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Collaboration

Definition

Collaboration involves the interplay of the cognitive (including thinking and reasoning), interpersonal, and intrapersonal competencies necessary to participate effectively and ethically in teams. Ever-increasing versatility and depth of skill are applied across diverse situations, roles, groups, and perspectives in order to co-construct knowledge, meaning, and content, and learn from, and with, others in physical and virtual environments.

Student Descriptors

Students participate in teams by establishing positive and respectful relationships, developing trust and acting co-operatively and with integrity.

Students learn from and contribute to the learning of others by co-constructing knowledge, meaning, and content.

Students assume various roles on the team, respect a diversity of perspectives, and address disagreements and manage conflict in a sensitive and constructive manner.

Students network with a variety of communities/groups and use an array of technology appropriately to work with others.

Communication

Definition

Communication involves receiving and expressing meaning (e.g., reading and writing, viewing and creating, listening and speaking) in different contexts and with different audiences and purposes. Effective communication increasingly involves understanding both local and global perspectives, societal and cultural contexts, and adapting and changing using a variety of media appropriately, responsibly, safely, and with regard to one's digital footprint.

Student Descriptors

Students communicate effectively in different contexts in oral and written form in French and/or English through a variety of media.

Students communicate using the appropriate digital tools and create a positive digital footprint.

Students ask effective questions to acquire knowledge, listen to understand all points of view, voice their own opinions, and advocate for ideas.

Students gain knowledge about a variety of languages and understand the cultural importance of language.

Global Citizenship and Sustainability

Definition

Global citizenship and sustainability involves reflecting on diverse worldviews and perspectives and understanding and addressing ecological, social, and economic issues that are crucial to living in a contemporary, connected, interdependent, and sustainable world. It also includes the acquisition of knowledge, motivation, dispositions, and skills required for an ethos of engaged citizenship, with an appreciation for the diversity of people, perspectives, and the ability to envision and work toward a better and more sustainable future for all.

Student Descriptors

Students understand the ecological, economic, and social forces, their interconnectedness, and how they affect individuals, societies, and countries.

Students take actions and responsible decisions that support quality of life for all, now and in the future.

Students recognize discrimination and promote principles of equity, human rights, and democratic participation.

Students understand Indigenous traditions and knowledge and its place in Canada, learn from and with diverse people, develop cross-cultural understanding, and understand the forces that affect individuals, societies, and nations.

Students engage in local, national, and global initiatives to make a positive difference.

Students contribute to society and to the culture of local, national, global, and virtual communities in a responsible, inclusive, accountable, sustainable, and ethical manner.

Students as citizens participate in networks in a safe and socially responsible manner.