



Habits of Mind

Cultivating Real Life Behaviors and Skills
Presented by



What Are Habits of Mind?

- These habits consist of 16 behaviors which will support communication, collaboration, responsiveness, resiliency, problem solving, citizenship, and innovation

Habits of Mind			
	Minimize distractions: Take your time! Think before acting. Remain calm, thoughtful, and deliberate.		Reflect and communicate: Be clear, direct, and succinct. Be clear, direct, and succinct in written and oral efforts. Avoid overgeneralization, distortion, distortion, and exaggeration.
	Listen with understanding and empathy: Adopt the other's point of view. Decide what is best for another person's thoughts and ideas. Make an effort to understand another's point of view and emotions.		Imagine, create, and innovate: Try a different way! Generate new ideas, visions, and insights.
	Persistence: Give it a try! Remain to completion. Remain focused. Look for ways to reach your goal when stuck. Don't give up.		Respond with wonderment and awe: Have fun, surprise it yourself! Find the wonder, awe, mystery, mysterious and be intrigued with phenomena and beauty.
	Thinking flexibly: Look at a matter from a different point of view. Be able to change perspectives, generate alternatives, and consider options.		Laugh humor: Laugh a little! Find the whimsical, incongruous, and unexpected. Be able to laugh at yourself!
	Striving for accuracy and precision: Check it up! Always do your best. Get high standards. Check and find ways to improve consistently.		Thinking interdependently: Work together! Be able to work in and learn from others in reciprocal situations. Team work.
	Questioning and problem solving: How do you know? Have a questioning attitude. Know what data are needed and develop questioning strategies to produce those data. Find problems to solve.		Think, learn, and act: Venture out! Be adventurous. Live on the edge of your competence. Try new things courageously.
	Gathering data through all senses: Use your senses! Pay attention to the world around you. Gather data through all the senses: touch, smell, taste, hear, and see.		Thinking about your thinking (metacognition): Know your knowledge! Be aware of your own thoughts, strategies, feelings, and actions and their effects on others.
	Applying and extending prior knowledge: Use what you know! Access prior knowledge. Transfer knowledge beyond the situation in which it was learned.		Learning continuously: Have as much more to learn! Have humility and pride when admitting you don't know. Seek competence.



Habits of Mind Sorting Activity

How Do We Develop These Habits?

- The first step is self reflection: Recognizing Habits of Mind within yourself.
- Answer these questions:
 - How would you respond to conflicting, ambiguous problematic information sent from a colleague or superior?
 - Which three habits would you rely upon to deal with problematic situations ?
 - How did you develop these skills?

Integrating Habits of Mind into the Curriculum

- The questions you should ask when unit planning are:
 - What processes do I want my students to practice and develop?
 - What thinking skills will be necessary to activate their mind?
 - How might I directly teach those thinking skills?

Assessing Growth

- The ability for students to use feedback to learn about themselves and continue growing is the most important part of assessment
- Assessment strategies should support tasking not testing
- Examples:
 - Open ended questionnaires
 - observing performance during a task
 - interviews
 - digital portfolios
 - games
 - checklists or I can lists
 - journals or diaries
 - rubrics,
 - selected response or surveys

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