



21st Century Skills Checklist



Are your middle-school learners developing important 21st century skills like problem solving, collaborating and persisting through failure?

No matter their age, children can (and do!) practice these important skills in age-appropriate ways. This checklist will help you identify whether your middle schoolers are developing the skills they'll need for success in school and life.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

PROBLEM SOLVE IN CONTEXT

Are your learners able to keep criteria and constraints in mind as they work to solve a problem? Are they aware of the real-world implications of a given problem and their solution?

RECOGNIZE THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO SOLVE THE SAME PROBLEM

Can your learners not only come up with their own solutions, but also see the value in their peers' solutions as well?

LEARN HOW TO WORK IN TEAMS

Are your learners able to work in groups of 3-4 without guidance? Watch to see if they are coming to a consensus as a team and compromising effectively so that their final solution reflects everyone's ideas.

THINK CRITICALLY ABOUT THEIR DECISIONS

Do your learners make predictions about whether solutions will succeed or fail? Are they able to theorize what will happen as a result of their choices?

LEARN FROM FAILURE

Look for learners who are eager to continue working even if they experience failure or their plan goes awry.

IMPROVE OR CHANGE THEIR MINDS BASED ON EVIDENCE

Watch out for learners who improve their idea or design based on the data they collect or new information they receive.

DEVELOP TECHNOLOGICAL LITERACY

Do your learners understand that most things around them are technologies designed to solve problems on a local and global scale? Do your learners realize they have the power to design and shape the world around us?

Empower your students to become innovative problem solvers.
Find out how you can create a generation of problem solvers with EiE.

Contact sales@mos.org for more information.