Problem Solving

The ability to find a solution to a situation or challenge

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•	I know what instructions are
• •	I understand and follow simple verbal instructions
• • •	I understand and follow simple visual instructions
STEP 0	I complete tasks by following instructions

Problem Solving

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Skills Builder PARTNERSHIP

STEP 0	I complete tasks by following instructions
•	I know when I need help
• •	I explore where I might find help
• • •	I know who I can ask for help
STEP 1	I complete tasks by finding someone to help if I need them

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STEP 1	I complete tasks by finding someone to help if I need them
•	I identify a problem I am having
• •	I explain a problem to someone else
• • •	I act on advice to solve problems
STEP 2	I complete tasks by explaining problems to someone for advice if I need

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STEP 2	I complete tasks by explaining problems to someone for advice if I need
•	I identify what I already know and what I need to know about a problem
• •	I know where to go for extra information
• • •	I use extra information to help me solve a problem
STEP 3	I complete tasks by finding information I need myself

Problem Solving

The ability to find a solution to a situation or challenge

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STEP 3	I complete tasks by finding information I need myself
•	I identify complicated problems that do not have a simple solution
• •	I understand why creating lots of possible solutions can help solve complicated problems
• • •	I develop multiple potential solutions for complicated problems
STEP 4	I explore problems by creating different possible solutions

Problem Solving

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STEP 4	I explore problems by creating different possible solutions
•	I explain and define what pros and cons are
• •	I identify the pros and cons of different solutions
• • •	I apply pros and cons when evaluating solutions to make the best choice
STEP 5	I explore problems by thinking about the pros and cons of possible solutions

Problem Solving

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STEP 5	I explore problems by thinking about the pros and cons of possible solutions
•	I explain and define what complex problems are
• •	I identify the characteristics of complex problems
• • •	I know how to work with complex problems
STEP 6	I explore complex problems by identifying when there are no simple technical solutions

Problem Solving

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STEP 6	I explore complex problems by identifying when there are no simple technical solutions
•	I identify what I know and what I need to know to understand a complex problem
• •	I identify the research that would be useful in exploring complex problems
• • •	I know how to carry out primary and secondary research
STEP 7	I explore complex problems by building my understanding through research

Problem Solving

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STEP 7	I explore complex problems by building my understanding through research
•	I explain and define what causes and effects are
• •	I know why causes and effects are important in understanding complex problems
• • •	I identify causes and effects and how they might join up into chains or circles
STEP 8	I explore complex problems by analysing the causes and effects

Problem Solving

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STEP 8	I explore complex problems by analysing the causes and effects
•	I generate a range of solutions for complex problems
• •	I understand what feasibility is and why it is important
• • •	I know how to assess if solutions are feasible
STEP 9	I create solutions for complex problems by generating a range of options

Problem Solving

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STEP 9	I create solutions for complex problems by generating a range of options
•	I know how to evaluate possible solutions to a complex problem
• •	I understand that implementing solutions will have secondary effects
• • •	I evaluate potential solutions by considering secondary effects
STEP 10	I create solutions for complex problems by evaluating the positive and negative effects of a range of options

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STEP 10	I create solutions for complex problems by evaluating the positive and negative effects of a range of options
•	I explain and define what logical reasoning is
• •	I understand the differences between inductive and deductive logic
• • •	I use logic trees as a tool for logical reasoning to arrive at a conclusion
STEP 11	I analyse complex problems by using logical reasoning

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STEP 11	I analyse complex problems by using logical reasoning
•	I explain and define what a testable hypothesis is
• •	I create testable hypotheses to be used to solve complex problems
• • •	I test hypotheses using sample data
STEP 12	I analyse complex problems by creating and testing hypotheses

Problem Solving

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STEP 12	I analyse complex problems by creating and testing hypotheses
•	I explain and define what strategic plans are
• •	I define the strategic purpose to develop strategic plans
• • •	I use research and analysis to plan my approach to a strategic plan
STEP 13	I implement strategic plans to solve complex problems

Problem Solving

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STEP 13	I implement strategic plans to solve complex problems
•	I know how to assess the success of strategic plans
• •	I set SMART targets as the focus of my strategic plans
• • •	I set milestones to measure if strategic plans are on track to achieving goals
STEP 14	I implement strategic plans to solve complex problems and assess their success

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STEP 14	I implement strategic plans to solve complex problems and assess their success
•	I list reflective questions to evaluate the success of a strategic plan
• •	I adapt strategic plans to adress challenges and manage impact challenges
• • •	I test hypotheses and adapt my approach to increase the success of a solution
STEP 15	I implement strategic plans to solve complex problems and draw out learning to refine those plans over time