



CRITICAL THINKING

A Competency Defined in the Ministerial Order for Student Learning #001/2013



LEARNER PROFILE

Critical thinking involves using reasoning and criteria to conceptualize, evaluate or synthesize ideas. Students reflect on their thinking to improve it. They challenge assumptions behind thoughts, beliefs or actions. Students value honesty, fairness and open-mindedness.

HOW DOES A STUDENT DEMONSTRATE CRITICAL THINKING?

1 QUESTION



Question and analyze evidence, assertions or assumptions.

2 APPLY REASON



Apply reasoned approaches or relevant criteria to conceptualize, analyze or make judgements.

3 REFLECT



Reflect upon and evaluate reasoning behind thought, beliefs or actions.

4 SYNTHESIZE



Synthesize thoughts and information to discover or extend understandings.

5 DEMONSTRATE



Demonstrate intellectual integrity, fairness and open-mindedness.

STRATEGIES AND IDEAS



Routinely use critical thinking skills / vocabulary and take the time to unpack the meaning of these underlying concepts. Use works like apply, analyze, evaluate, synthesize and create.



Help students coach one another to think more deeply. Use and encourage phrases like "Have you thought of...? Why did you ...? What are the implications of ...?"



Integrate technology to support innovation and discovery.



Provide opportunities for students to experience a variety of sources and perspectives, and use the community as a source for experts, mentors and elders.



Alberta students value intellectual integrity and courage by respectfully challenging or affirming beliefs, values, and actions.

REFERENCE LINKS:

COMPETENCY INFORMATION SHEETS
COMPETENCY LEARNING GUIDE
ALBERTA EDUCATION



EDMONTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS