

“Choose your adventure” Alternatives Practical Problem Solving Holistic Rubric

Students Name: _____

Practical Problem Solving is a process whereby we (a) consider the context of the problem and valued ends, (b) collect and use reliable information to inform us about the problem, (c) consider alternatives and consequences using moral/ethical questions, and (d) give sound reasons for the recommended solution.

- 6-5** a. We thoroughly described the problem, its context (obstacles and people) and valued-ends.
- b. We thoroughly described the information we used to inform our problem solving. We noted the reliable resource criteria.
- c. We proposed four or more alternatives and potential consequences to solve the problem and explained our thinking regarding the workable and moral/ethical questions/criteria.
- d. We proposed a solution and provided a clear, complete explanation of the reasons (information, moral/ethical, valued ends) why we decided to solve the problem that way and why we didn't choose the other alternatives.
- 4-3** a. We described the problem and some of its context and valued ends.
- b. We used some information to guide our decision; most sources are reliable
- c. We proposed three alternatives, consequences are unclear, and some consideration was given to moral/ethical and workable questions.
- d. We provided a clear, complete explanation of the reasons why we decided to solve the problem that way.
- 2-1** a. We described some aspects of the problem and its context and did not consider valued-ends.
- b. We used one reliable source of information.
- c. We proposed only two ways to solve the problem and did not show evidence of using the moral/ethical questions.
- d. We wrote a brief answer about this but it is not very clear of complete.
- 0** a. We did not figure out the core problem and its context.
- b. We considered only opinion in thinking about the problem.
- c. We proposed only one way to solve the problem and gave no evidence we considered the workable and moral/ethical questions.
- d. We did not explain why we solved the problem the way we did.

_____ x2 = _____ Total score

Adapted from *Rubric for assessing the analytical thinking process of problem solving*. Irvine, CA: Rancho San Joaquin Middle School. Retrieved June 2, 2007, from <http://www.ranchoms.org/rsjdocs/analytic/psrubric.htm>