

21 CE Artifacts – What is Critical Thinking?

A Lesson Plan for Grade Two

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Subject: All subjects

Grade: 2 (Could be adapted for any grade)

Curricular Connections:

Developing critical thinking is one of the K-12 goals that must be present across all areas of study in all the Saskatchewan Curriculums.

Summary:

I wanted the students to know how important the skill of critical thinking is in all areas of study and of life. I developed this lesson and put it in the introductory section of our Distance Moodle course for Grade 2. It is self-contained and could be done in any class, at any time of year.

Throughout the lessons the student will see the critical thinking icon and make the connection.

The resources used are included in the lesson plan.





Critical Thinking



Curricular Connections:

Developing thinking is one of the K-12 goals that must be present across all areas of study in all the Saskatchewan Curriculums.

Purpose: The purpose of this lesson is to understand the importance of critical thinking, and gain experience in using critical thinking strategies.

Materials: HO 1

You Tube Video <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=moEEeqZiuQg>

Instruction:

Throughout Grade 2 you will learn certain skills by completing lessons in the usual subjects such as ELA, Math, Science and Social. There are other skills you need to develop that are very important. Critical thinking is one of them. Do you know what it means to be a critical thinker?

View the video "Critical Thinking" at this website. (4:43)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=moEEEqZiuQg>

Preview HO 1 and complete, using information from the video.

Extend your Learning:



If you would like to develop your critical thinking skills, there are several good resources on line. One such site is

<http://www.jumpstart.com/parents/worksheets/critical-thinking-worksheets>

HO 1

**Critical thinking is using your brain
to decide what to do and what to think.**

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=moEEeqZiuQg>

Characteristics of critical thinkers	Example from Video	My own Experience
Critical thinkers are fair.	Children solve a fight over the ball by themselves.	
Critical thinkers are confident in their own decisions. They don't just follow the crowd.		
Critical thinkers can solve problems on their own.		
Critical thinkers can think about their own emotions and consider the feelings of others.		
Critical thinkers don't believe everything they hear or read. They think for themselves!	A commercial on TV says shoes will make you play like a pro, but you know different.	
Critical thinkers are curious and want to learn as much as they can.		
Critical thinkers think about their own work and want to make improvements. They want to do the best job they can do.		

Assessment and Evaluation

It is time to assess how well you have done your work.
Circle or colour the face that shows how well you did
each indicator.

- 😊 I did my best and it is great!
- 😐 I did okay but could do better.
- 😞 I did not do well.



Indicators	Reflection
I can listen and understand information.	😊 😐 😞
I can make connections to my own experience.	😊 😐 😞
I can complete a graphic organizer.	😊 😐 😞
I can reflect on and assess my reading and writing.	😊 😐 😞

Reflect and Assess - What could I do better next time?

Reflection:

I do not have a face to face class and most of my assignment deals with developing courses. Therefore I thought critical thinking would be the best choice to implement in my work. The idea came when I started to research ideas for critical thinking. I came across this You Tube video about the very basic question "What is critical thinking?" I thought, "What better place to start?" So I used the video to create the lesson so the students would be aware of the skill.