

**DRAFT: Think Critically**  
 (Intellectual / Synthesizing Mind)  
 Grades – K-12

Critical thinking: thinking deeper about any subject, content, or problem. This is done by breaking it down into smaller pieces in order to really understand a topic.

	<b>Emerging</b> With help, I am beginning to do this.	<b>Developing</b> Sometimes I need help and sometimes I can do this by myself.	<b>Applying</b> I can do this on my own.
<b>Explores and questions information and ideas</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I ask questions for a short and simple answer</li> <li>• After reading or listening to information, I find it difficult to figure out the main idea.</li> <li>• I can give my opinion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I ask questions to find an explanation</li> <li>• After reading or listening, I can figure out the main issue or idea.</li> <li>• I can give my opinion and give a simple reason why I think that.</li> <li>• I am willing to hear other opinions that are different than mine.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I ask questions that make myself and/or others understand and think more deeply.</li> <li>• After reading or listening to information, I can explain what the main idea is and give reasons for my thinking.</li> <li>• I can give my opinion and support it with details.</li> <li>• I can listen to others to help prove my own opinion or I can choose to change my mind.</li> </ul>
<b>Solves problems and makes decisions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It can be hard to figure out what the problem is.</li> <li>• I make a quick decision without thinking about other choices.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I know what the problem is</li> <li>• I can give simple solutions to a problem</li> <li>• I think about my choices and then make a decision.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I know what the problem is and can explain it in detail</li> <li>• I can come up with several solutions to the problem and give reasons why these are good possible solutions.</li> <li>• I can make a decision and explain my choice.</li> </ul>