

Directions for Importing Newsletter Clippings

PROCESS SKILLS

Parent Toolkit for Grades K-1 and Grades 2-4

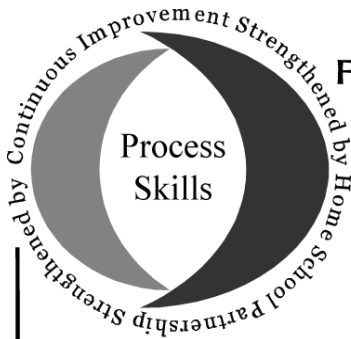
30 newsletter clips are included in this document:

- **Combined K-4 clip appears on page 2**
- **K-1 clippings appear on pages 3 – 8**
- **Grades 2-4 clippings appear on pages 9 – 12.**

Each clipping has two parts: a PNG graphic for use in MS Office programs AND a text box containing the content.

Copy and paste each part separately from this document into your newsletter document. The layout for the PNG picture should be “behind text” and the layout for the text box should be “in front of text”. Both can be resized as needed.

CLIP 1 K-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-4

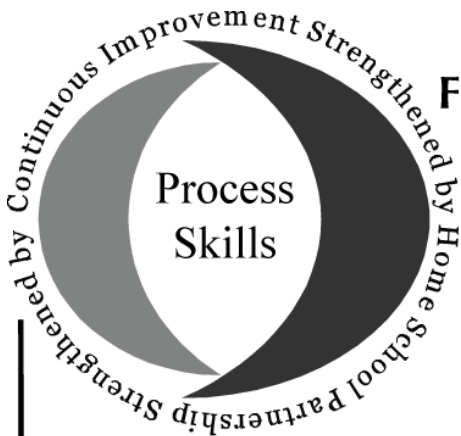
When children grow as critical thinkers, problem solvers, and decision makers, they master the curriculum and become accomplished learners.

They are children who can...

imagine
invent
elaborate
predict
reason
reflect
take risks

and justify solutions.

CLIP 1 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Parents and teachers can work collaboratively to teach children how to think critically, solve problems and make decisions. Here are some examples of how parents and teachers can provide ways for children to develop process skills.

Problem Solving Part One

When faced with a situation where no clear answer is evident, students recognize there is a problem, generate solutions and select one to try.

At home,

- *Encourage exploration.* Experiencing new things gives them knowledge they can use at a later time when a problem arises.
- Ask them how to “right a wrong”. If they’ve hurt someone’s feelings, how can they make amends?
- Don’t solve the problem for them. Ask questions that allow them to think for themselves, such as “How do you think we could...?”, “What do you think will happen if we...?”.

Mini Clips for Clip 1 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Developing Skills for Problem Solving

Encourage exploration.
Experiencing new things gives your child knowledge they can use at a later time when a problem arises.



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Developing Skills for Problem Solving

Ask them how to “right a wrong”. If they’ve hurt someone’s feelings, how can they make amends?

Mini Clip for Clip 1 K-4

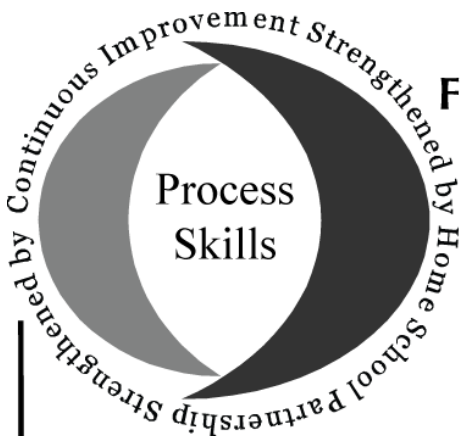


FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Developing Skills for Problem Solving

Don't solve the problem for them. Ask questions that allow them to think for themselves, such as "How do you think we could...?", "What do you think will happen if we...?".

CLIP 2 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Parents and teachers can work collaboratively to teach children how to think critically, solve problems and make decisions. Here are some examples of how parents and teachers can provide ways for children to develop process skills.

Problem Solving Part Two

When faced with a situation where no clear answer is evident, students recognize there is a problem, generate solutions and select one to try.

At home,

- Ask questions about a book they are reading, "What would you do if you were the character in the story?"
- Play games or work on a puzzle together.
- Model how to solve a problem. Talk through your thought processes when you are trying to find a solution to a small dilemma. Let them hear how you decided on the best choice.

Mini Clips for Clip 2 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Developing Skills for Problem Solving

Ask questions about a book they are reading, "What would you do if you were the character in the story?"



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Developing Skills for Problem Solving

Play games or work on a puzzle together.

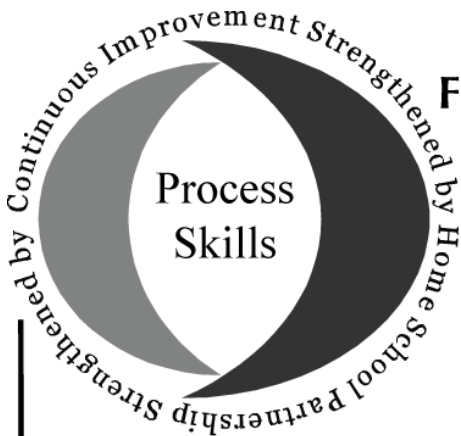


FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Developing Skills for Problem Solving

Model how to solve a problem. Talk through your thought processes when you are trying to find a solution to a small dilemma. Let them hear how you decided on the best choice.

CLIP 3 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Parents and teachers can work collaboratively to teach children how to think critically, solve problems and make decisions. Here are some examples of how parents and teachers can provide ways for children to develop process skills.

Critical Thinking

Critical thinking is the analysis of various points of view, the evaluation of data, and synthesizing this with prior knowledge to move towards a conclusion.

At home,

- Talk about different points of view. Allow each family member to give his/her point of view or opinion about something that has happened or something that the family is trying to decide.
- Gather data to make decisions. If the child says “everybody is doing it” conduct a survey of his/her friends to see what the data says.
- When you read stories, talk about the events from the point of view of different characters.
- Play at guessing how different family members or favorite characters would react to a situation.

Mini Clips for Clip 3 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Developing Skills for Critical Thinking

Talk about different points of view. Allow each family member to give his/her point of view or opinion about something that has happened or something that the family is trying to decide.




FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Developing Skills for Critical Thinking

Gather data to make decisions. If the child says “everybody is doing it” conduct a survey of his/her friends to see what the data says.


Mini Clips for Clip 3 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Developing Skills for Critical Thinking

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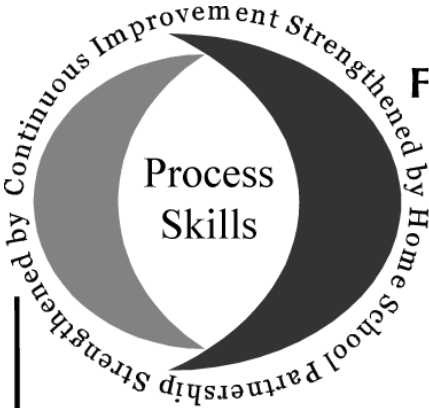


FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Developing Skills for Critical Thinking

Play at guessing how different family members or favorite characters would react to a situation.

CLIP 4 K-1



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Parents and teachers can work collaboratively to teach children how to think critically, solve problems and make decisions. Here are some examples of how parents and teachers can provide ways for children to develop process skills.

Decision Making

Decision-making is the process of considering alternatives in order to draw conclusions and make thoughtful choices.

At home,

- Offer choices, usually two options– it could be what to wear, to eat, a book to read, or a game to play. Then help your child weigh the positives and negatives of each choice before deciding.
- Talk about decisions that you are making and what you are thinking.
- Make predictions of what would likely happen next in various situations.

Mini Clips for Clip 4 K-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Developing Skills for Decision Making

Offer choices, usually two options– it could be what to wear, to eat, a book to read, or a game to play. Then help your child weigh the positives and negatives of each choice before deciding.



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Developing Skills for Decision Making

Talk about decisions that you are making and what you are thinking.

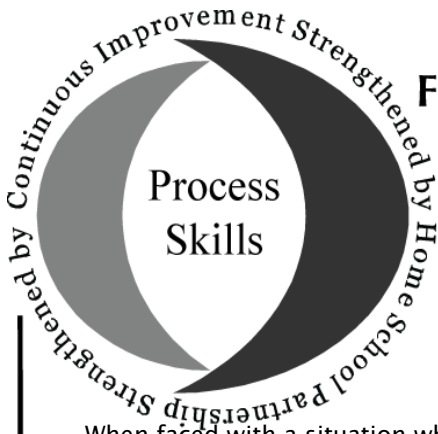


FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES K-1

Developing Skills for Decision Making

Make predictions of what would likely happen next in various situations.

CLIP 1 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

Parents and teachers can work collaboratively to teach children how to think critically, solve problems and make decisions. Here are some examples of how parents and teachers can provide ways for children to develop process skills.

Problem Solving

When faced with a situation where no clear answer is evident, students recognize there is a problem, generate solutions and select one to try.

At home,

- Talk about what you are doing when you are solving straightforward problems. For example, “I think I have a problem here. I’ve made dinner for four people and now six are coming. Let’s see, what could I do? (Generate solutions, evaluate them, and pick one, giving the reason why.)
- Talk about the problem solving that you see others do in the neighborhood or on television.
- Don’t solve problems that your child can solve himself/herself. Say, “I think you can figure that out.” If they need help, guide by asking, “What’s the problem? What are some things you might do? Which one seems best and why? What is your plan?”

Mini Clips for Clip 1 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

Developing Skills for Problem Solving

Talk about what you are doing when you are solving straightforward problems. For example, “I think I have a problem here. I’ve made dinner for four people and now six are coming. Let’s see, what could I do? (Generate solutions, evaluate them, and pick one, giving the reason why.)



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

Developing Skills for Problem Solving

Talk about the problem solving that you see others do in the neighborhood or on television.

Mini Clips for Clip 1 2-4

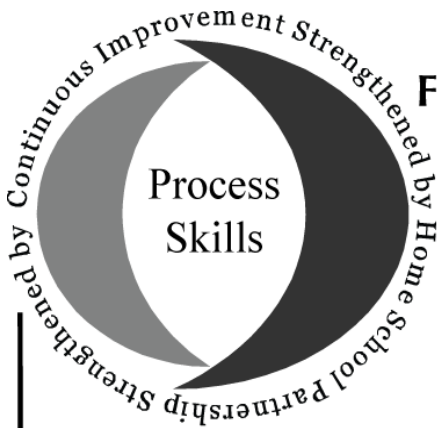


FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

Developing Skills for Problem Solving

Don't solve problems that your child can solve himself/herself. Say, "I think you can figure that out." If they need help, guide by asking, "What's the problem? What are some things you might do? Which one seems best and why? What is your plan?"

CLIP 2 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

Parents and teachers can work collaboratively to teach children how to think critically, solve problems and make decisions. Here are some examples of how parents and teachers can provide ways for children to develop process skills.

Critical Thinking

Critical thinking is the analysis of various points of view, the evaluation of data, and synthesizing this with prior knowledge to move towards a conclusion.

At home,

- Talk about different points of view. When you watch television programs or read stories together, try to figure out the points of view of different characters.
- Gather data to make decisions. If the child says, "everybody is doing it" conduct a survey of his/her friends to see what the data says.
- Play at guessing how different family members or favorite characters would react to a situation. Try to think about what you know about them that makes you think they will react that way.

Mini Clips for Clip 2 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

Developing Skills for Critical Thinking

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FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

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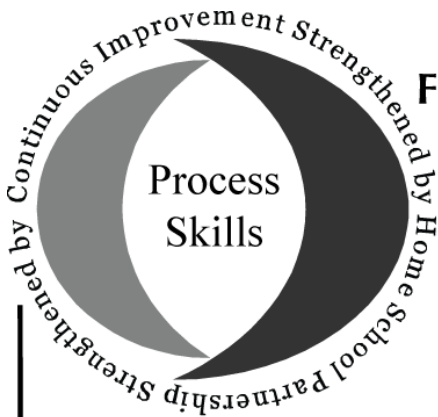


FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

Developing Skills for Critical Thinking

Play at guessing how different family members or favorite characters would react to a situation. Try to think about what you know about them that makes you think they will react that way.

CLIP 3 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

Parents and teachers can work collaboratively to teach children how to think critically, solve problems and make decisions. Here are some examples of how parents and teachers can provide ways for children to develop process skills.

Decision Making

Decision-making is the process of considering alternatives in order to draw conclusions and make thoughtful choices.

At home,

- Offer choices; at this age three options are appropriate – it might be what to do on the weekend, where to go on a special day, or how to spend some special money. Then help your child weigh the positives and negatives of each choice before deciding.
- Talk about decisions that you are making and what you are thinking.
- Make predictions of what would likely happen next in various situations.

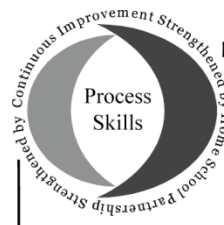
Mini Clips for Clip 3 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

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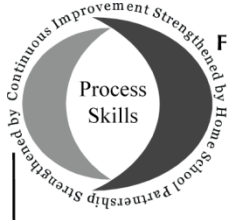


FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

Developing Skills for Decision Making

Talk about decisions that you are making and what you are thinking.

Mini Clips for Clip 3 2-4



FROM THE PARENT TOOLKIT GRADES 2-4

Developing Skills for Decision Making

Make predictions of what
would likely happen next in
various situations.