

Sample Student Behaviors Involved When Using Integrative Skills

Critical Thinking—Understanding New Knowledge

Being open minded
 Asking questions
 Focusing on a question
 Distinguishing relevant and irrelevant knowledge statements, value statements, and reasoning
 Willing to analyze arguments and knowledge statements in terms of how well they explain
 Desiring to use credible sources
 Judging credibility of an argument or source
 Tolerating ambiguity
 Respecting evidence
 Waiting for considerable evidence before judging
 Being willing to search for more evidence
 Being willing to revise in light of new evidence

Problem Solving—Resolving a Difficulty

Sensing a problem
 Identifying important components of the problem
 Putting elements of the problem into one's own words
 Constructing or identifying a problem statement
 Identifying alternative solution plans
 Selecting a plan appropriate to the type of problem identified
 Anticipating and planning for obstacles
 Trying out the planned solution
 Monitoring the process of working toward the solution
 Adapting procedures as obstacles are encountered
 Describing the solution resulting from the procedure
 Validating the findings in terms of procedure and goal
 Determining the efficiency and effectiveness of the overall process

Investigating—Testing an Idea or Explanation

Writing operational definitions as needed
 Constructing a question to be answered
 Writing a hypothesis that answers the question
 Collecting and interpreting data related to the hypothesis
 Writing a report of the investigation, including a statement about whether the data support the hypothesis

Creative Thinking—Creating Novel Ideas or Products

Demonstrating an interest in exploring the novel and the unexpected
 Willing to try to create innovative or original thoughts, patterns, products, and solutions
 Willing to take risks in creating and exploring new ideas and different viewpoints

Continued

Being aware of the potential of generating alternatives
 Being aware of the potential of applying ideas, analogies, and models in new contexts
 Being ready to change ideas or approaches as the situation evolves
 Being willing to work at the edge of one's competence and to accept confusion and uncertainty
 Learning to view failure as normal, interesting, and challenging
 Being willing to set products or ideas aside and come back later to evaluate them from a distance
 Feeling comfortable with and being motivated by intrinsic rather than extrinsic rewards