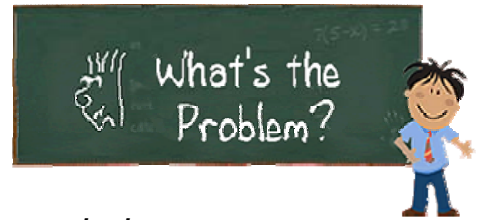


Teacher Instructions:



Problem Scenario: *The Perfect Toy*

The Main Problem: *You are a toy designer hoping to launch the next great toy that will be a hit this season and popular for years to come. What direction should you take in the design of this toy, and why will children be drawn to it?*

Your students will be viewing this problem from an **integrated** perspective.



How do you come up with the “perfect toy”?

Students will review the history and future of toys, and use that information to come up with a design plan for their own “perfect toy”.

Step ①

**Review
Stimulus
Items**

Stimulus Item #1 — “This Year’s Hot Toys” (list)

Stimulus Item #2— “The History of Toys” (infographics)

Stimulus Item #3— “The Future of Toys” (article)

A low-readability option has been provided so students in lower grades can participate in this problem scenario

**ALTERNATE Stimulus for Lower Grades —
Nominees for the Toy Hall of Fame**

***Students should take notes as they review the Stimulus Items*

Step ②

**Classroom
Discussion**

Lead a **class discussion** about issues related to the topic. You are being provided a sheet to help you guide the classroom discussion.

Step ③

**Student
Response**

Extended Responses: Have students answer the following questions. Remind students to use information from the Stimulus Items to support their response.

1. **How have toys changed over time? What will future changes most likely be?**
2. **What are the features of a toy that will make it popular with today’s children? Support your answer.**

****students should have access to their notes as they enter their answers*

****students may also have access to the Stimulus Items as they enter their answers*

EXTENDED PRODUCT (Optional): Divide students into small groups, and each group will act as the **Design Team working on the “perfect toy.”** They must come up with an overall description of the toy, including its features and details. The groups must also be able to present their new toy to representatives of a toy company (i.e. fellow students) and explain why it will be successful with today’s children. The groups can also **draw a sketch** showing the basic design of the toy.

Step ④

Analysis

Rubrics to grade student entries have been provided, and all questions have been mapped to the content standards.