

# 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.