FUTURE Problem Solving®
Australia
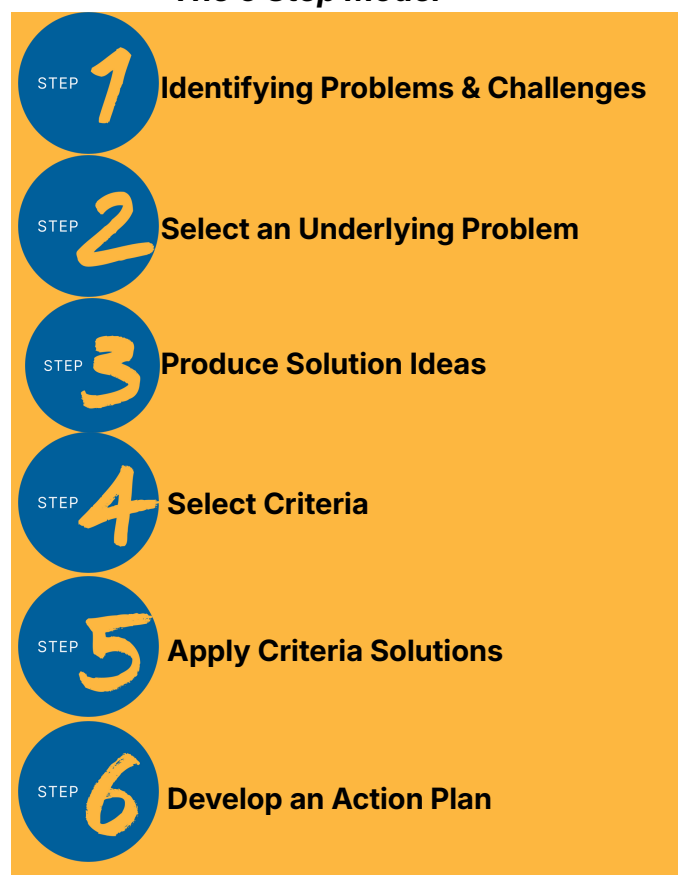
Developing the capacity of young Australians to design and promote positive futures through problem solving.

Primary Programs

A non-competitive problem-solving program designed for but not limited to implementation in the regular classroom divided into two stages: Foundational Skills (Prep -2) and Developing Skills (Grades 3-4). Primary Programs can be implemented as a whole class activity or can be conducted in smaller groups.

The 6 Step Model

- STEP 1 **Identifying Problems & Challenges**
- STEP 2 **Select an Underlying Problem**
- STEP 3 **Produce Solution Ideas**
- STEP 4 **Select Criteria**
- STEP 5 **Apply Criteria Solutions**
- STEP 6 **Develop an Action Plan**

Why Primary Programs?

To introduce students in lower primary to the six step problem solving process.

Having developed skills in applying the six step process to a range of genres, students will be competition ready in years 5/6 for Community Problem Solving (CmPS) or Global Issues Problem Solving (GIPS).

The gradual introduction and practice of each step of the six step problem solving process enable students to build a solid foundation of skills applying the future problem solving process to a range of genres across the curriculum.

Through a range of creative and critical thinking strategies, they develop adaptability in the application of the six step process.

The Primary Programs support and extend oral and written literacy, collaborative group work and class discussion.

The skills taught lay the foundations for students to become innovators and responsible change makers of the future.

Recent Science & Technology Topics	**Recent Business & Economics Topics**	**Recent Social & Political Topics**
Agriculture	Antarctica	Food Security
Digital Realities	Tourism	Throw-Away Society
Surveillance	Environmental Law	Air Quality
Rising Sea Levels	Urbanisation	Currency
Nanotechnology	Robotic Workforce	The Future of History
	Invasive Species	Video Games

Foundation Skills

Focuses on developing steps 1-3 of the FPS process through Fairy Tales, literature, science topics, current affairs, issues in the local or school community, ethics education and many other options.

Step 1 - Brainstorm Challenges

Step 2 - Select an Underlying Problem

Step 3 - Brainstorm solutions to address the Underlying Problem

Twice per year your class/group will send in a short submission "Our best ideas" for evaluation. These can be handwritten or drawn by the students or recorded by an adult in the Foundation Skills Workbook.

Developing Skills

Revisits Steps 1-3 and develops the use of:

Step 4 – Writing criteria to help select the best solution.

Step 5 – Scoring the solutions.

Step 6 – Using the highest scoring solution to develop an Action Plan

This submission can use the topic Future Scenes for the year or a real-world problem for you in your

class/school/local community.

Twice per year, your class/group can return submission for evaluation. Completing at least steps 1-3 is

encouraged, with 4, 5 and 6 completed where possible.

Characteristics of Future Problem Solving Participants

- Futuristic Thinkers
- Collaborative
- Effective Problem Solvers
- Analytical Researchers
- Expert Innovators
- Ethical Leaders
- Diverse Thinkers
- Global Citizens

How can I get started with my students?

- Register a team
- Purchase recommended publications
- Plan your Future Problem Solving year

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