

ROCKY VIEW SCHOOLS – LEARNER COMPETENCIES

CRITICAL THINKER

Definition - Critical thinkers engage in reflective reasoning to build deep understanding that is supported by evidence.

A Critical Thinker...	Beginning (with direction)	Emerging (with guidance)	Progressing (with support)	Advancing (with prompts)	Mastering (self-directed)
QUESTIONS <i>Identifies significant questions for investigation</i>	Student is learning to define an issue.	Student poses questions about an issue.	Student poses questions that are relevant to an issue.	Student questions multiple facets of an issue.	Student identifies significant questions for in-depth investigation.
CONSIDERS <i>Identifies bias and understands multiple perspectives and context</i>	Student is beginning to identify own viewpoint.	Student accepts that others have viewpoints.	Student identifies multiple viewpoints and their impact on an issue.	Student considers multiple viewpoints and provides insights into various aspects of an issue.	Student recognizes bias and conveys deep insight into an issue.
ANALYZES <i>Gathers and analyzes relevant information from multiple sources</i>	Student is beginning to understand where and how to gather data.	Student gathers data from limited field of resources.	Student gathers data from standard sources.	Student seeks information beyond standard sources to generate research in relatively simple contexts.	Student seeks information beyond standard sources to generate research in complex contexts.
REASONS <i>Draws inferences from data</i>	Student is beginning to draw conclusions based on data.	Student draws inferences from basic data.	Student draws logical inferences from data, observations, and review.	Student demonstrates deep understanding of data and provides new insight.	Student demonstrates deep understanding of data and provides significant insight.
CONNECTS <i>Interprets & synthesizes information</i>	Student is learning how to interpret information.	Student generates basic ideas from information presented.	Student expresses ideas beyond those referenced.	Student pulls together information demonstrating insightful and well-informed ideas.	Student builds new insight, drawing conclusions and creative, well-informed ideas.

With Direction – Learning occurs with “step by step” direct instruction and monitoring

With Guidance – Teacher provides student with clear targets and models a path for success. Student uses the teacher as the primary resource in their pursuit of success.

With Support – Teacher role is changing from “director” to “facilitator” of the learning and is responsible for creating pathways that foster independence.

With Prompts – Student is reflective, invested in learning and begins to work independently.

Self Directed – Student takes ownership of the learning process and is intrinsically motivated to not only succeed but to acquire a deeper understand of the situation or issue. Student is reflective and is able to apply acquired knowledge to new situations.