

# CREATIVITY & INNOVATION

In the 21st Century classroom, students develop original ideas and create products by applying critical thinking, research methods, communication tools, and collaborative processes. Teachers provide experiences that allow students to create unique ideas and products.

Entry	Developing	Approaching	Ideal/Target
<p><b>Teacher:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>limits instruction to specific content.</li> <li>makes connections to existing knowledge.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Teacher:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>provides instruction to accommodate a range of learning styles, interests, and capabilities.</li> <li>prompts students to identify trends, make predictions and think skillfully.</li> </ul> <p><b>Students:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>make connections to existing knowledge</li> <li>create products following teacher direction.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Teacher:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>creates a student-centered environment.</li> <li>provides opportunities for students to demonstrate collaborating, communication, and critical thinking skills.</li> <li>establishes group norms to facilitate effective collaboration.</li> </ul> <p><b>Students:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identify trends and make predictions independently.</li> <li>apply existing knowledge to create ideas and products.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Teacher:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>creates structures, provides opportunities, and assesses student performances</li> </ul> <p><b>Students:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>apply critical thinking, research methods, and communication tools to create original work.</li> <li>collaborate effectively with an audience beyond the classroom to create original work.</li> </ul>

Creativity and innovation ultimately lead to new products, perspectives and insights. Modern tools that augment and accelerate creativity and innovation are flexible and varied. Examples of such powerful tools are included in the Research & Information Fluency and Communication and Collaboration sections of this document.

***How to Use This Document:** Each chart title reflects essential 21st Century skills and collectively embodies a vision of instruction in technology-rich classrooms. Columns are snapshots of student and teacher behaviors in various stages of classroom development. Each column increases in degree of student-centered focus. A progression occurs between columns with the most desired behaviors in the right hand column.*