

Rubric for Identifying problem solving strategies

Observe students during problem solving activity, tally or tick in the strategy box as you see it being used.

Class name:

Observer:

Date:

<p>Acting it Out/ Uses objects (Early Stage 1 and Stage 1)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collect material suitable to represent items in the problem 2. Work through the problem manipulating materials to get the solution 3. Check that the solution is reasonable. 	<p>Trial and Error or Guess, Check and Refine (Early Stage 1 to Stage 3)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have a guess at the answer 2. Check to see how close it is. 3. Refine or change your answer using the information you gained from your first guess. 4. Repeat the process until you get the answer 	<p>Make a Drawing, Diagram or Model (Stage 1 to Stage 3)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read the question carefully to determine what you need to draw 2. Draw and show all the information you have 3. Continue to add to the diagram until you find the solution 	<p>Looking for Patterns(Stage 2 and Stage 3)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify and record relevant information 2. The pattern may be obvious. If not ... 3. Extend the pattern to find the solution
<p>Make a List, Chart, Table or Tally (Stage 2 and Stage 3)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Read the question carefully to determine what would be the best way – list, chart, table, tally 2. Decide on relevant headings 3. Record all the possibilities 4. Determine an answer and check that it is reasonable 	<p>Working Backwards (Stage 2 and Stage 3)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Start with the answer and use the information in the question to step backwards. 	<p>Eliminating Possibilities (Stage 3)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. List all information and possibilities. 2. Use the information in the question to exclude possibilities 3. Check that the answer is reasonable 	<p>Solving Simpler Problems (Stage 3)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify what you want to know 2. Break the problem into smaller steps or change the numbers to smaller ones 3. Solve each step 4. Determine a final solution and check with the question to see if it makes sense