General (Shorter Lesson)

• A - Analyze a Need

Read and review the engineering design process scenario (GRASPS) to determine the what, who, and why of the problem to be solved.

B - Develop Ideas

Brainstorm ideas to meet the goal. Sketch and annotate the best idea.

C - Create a Prototype

Discuss how to build the prototype, build it, and reflect on what went well (or did not) in the building process.

D - Test and Evaluate

Test the watercraft prototypes and evaluate the results. Determine what worked, what didn't, and reflect on how to improve the design.

Specific (Longer Lesson)

A.1 - Ask and Empathize

Read the scenario (GRASPS). Promote Q&A about the audience's needs, student's role as the boat builder, and the problem. Consider Facebook's ad targeting demographics categories, Plutchik's Wheel of Emotions, and character traits lists to deepen the discussion. Practice 3D product sketching.

A.2 - Investigate and Research the Problem

Research the problem through focused web searches: How shall the boatbuilder make a watercraft prototype from a 5-inch square of aluminum foil to hold as many pennies as possible? Investigate the problem with a hands-on rapid prototype of the test using a smaller square of foil. Practice 3D product sketching.

A.3 - Define the Problem

Summarize the essence of the project-based learning scenario (e.g., written statement, Flipgrid video, slideshow): 1. What is the problem to be solved? 2) Who will benefit from the solution? 3) Why is the problem being solved? Practice 3D product sketching.

B.1 - Imagine Possibilities

Brainstorm solution ideas that support an anything-goes approach. E.g.: Quick pencil sketches of the watercrafts then a gallery walk to share is one way to grow ideas.

B.2 - Specify Requirements

Write design specifications to be as explicit as possible and organized into logical chunks. Teacher provides some representative examples for students.

B.3 - Represent the Best Idea

Sketch and annotate the best idea to solve the problem. Consider both 2D and 3D sketches, and 3D modeling.

C.1 - Plan the Build (and Maybe the Test)

Create a step-by-step logical plan to build a prototype of the best idea to solve the problem. Possibly create a testing plan as well. The plan(s) may incorporate visuals or just text.

C.2 - Create and Document the Process

Follow the plan to build the prototype. Document the building steps with extensive photos.

C.3 - Justify Changes to the Plan

Note all the changes to the plan. E.g.: step sequence, time for each step, material amounts, tools used, etc.

D.1 - Test the Prototype

Review the GRASPS. Test the prototype according to the established success criteria.

D.2 - Evaluate the Results

Review the design specifications. Evaluate the results against the established success criteria. Use statistical measures to investigate the relationships between the design characteristics and the test results.

D.3 - Reflect to Improve the Design

Identify which prototype characteristics should be modified to better achieve the goal. Use the design specifications for guidance. Explain thinking.