

## Designing Effective Projects: Planning Projects Plan a Project

### Project Design Process

Use these process prompts to guide your efforts in designing your own unit plan.

Name/Year	Subject/Topics
<b>Step 1: Determine specific learning goals by using standards and desired higher-order thinking skills.</b>	
From your standards and your own high expectations, what is it that you want your students to be able to know, do, or understand?	
What higher-order thinking skills do you want to target?	
<b>Step 2: Develop Curriculum-Framing Questions.</b>	
What is the big idea in those targeted standards?	
What Essential, Unit, and Content Questions will you use to help focus the learning for your students?	
<p><b>Essential Questions</b> are provocative and make students think about the lessons within a greater context. Example: <i>How can we explain the things that happen around us?</i></p>	
<p><b>Unit Questions</b> focus attention on the important objectives of the project. Example: <i>Are there rules that affect the way things move? What rules affect whether an object floats or sinks?</i></p>	
<p><b>Content Questions</b> lead to fundamental and specific answers. Example: <i>How are density, buoyancy, and displacement related? How can you measure volume of irregular solids?</i></p>	
<b>Step 3: Make an Assessment Plan.</b>	
How will you know your student have met the learning goals?	
By what criteria will students be assessed?	

<p>What methods of assessment will you use throughout the project in order to inform you and your students about their learning process?</p>	
<p>What reporting and monitoring methods will you use to encourage student self-management and progress during independent and group work?</p>	
<p><b>Step 4: Design Activities.</b></p>	
<p>What scenarios will you develop to provide rich learning opportunities to help students meet the learning goals?</p>	
<p>How can you involve students in problem-solving investigations or other meaningful tasks that will help answer the Curriculum-Framing Questions and establish connections to life outside the classroom and address real-world concerns?</p>	