

NUF TEST

Within this technique students explore whether the solution(s) they came up with related to the driving question is (1) new, (2) useful, and (3) feasible.

This is a relatively simple way for students to evaluate whether their solution is on the right track and where they may need some more work. Often times the category of communication (how well and creatively was the issue and solution presented?) is added to this strategy in order to emphasize that students need to not only develop good ideas but they must also be able to present and communicate them well.

DIRECTIONS:

Introduce students to the fact that their solutions/ideas will be evaluated on whether they are (1) New (Has the idea been tried before?), (2) Useful (Does the idea actually solve the problem or address the driving question?), and (3) Feasible (Can it be done?). Ideally, students should be aware of this as they begin to explore the driving question at the beginning of the unit.

Prior to presenting their solution/idea to the authentic audience, have student teams self evaluate how well their concept rates from 1-10 in each of these three categories. Afterward, have student teams reflect on the following questions:

- Where do we think our solution/idea is strong?
- Where do we think our solution/idea is weak?
- Based upon this, how can we improve our proposed solution/idea?

Have the authentic audience at the end of the unit give the students feedback on their solutions/ideas based upon the NUF Test.

	NEW	USEFUL	feasible
promotional bat-mobile	7	2	6 = 15
Facebook Group	0	3	10 = 13
Austin bat tours	0	6	8 = 14
guano fertilizer	8	9	5 = 22
sponsors for bat colonies	10	4	1 = 15