

WPI

Teaching Creative Problem Solving and Teamwork

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GPS: Ignorance Is NOT Bliss

Problem

- Creative problem solving and teamwork are lacking in America
- These skills are not taught in schools

Solution

Teach groups of students problem solving at an early age

- Integrate into the classroom
- Work in teams of 4-5 students
- Complete weekly activity
- Follow an engaging storyline
- Use everyday materials



- Enhance skill development through teacher guidance

Our Program

Introduction

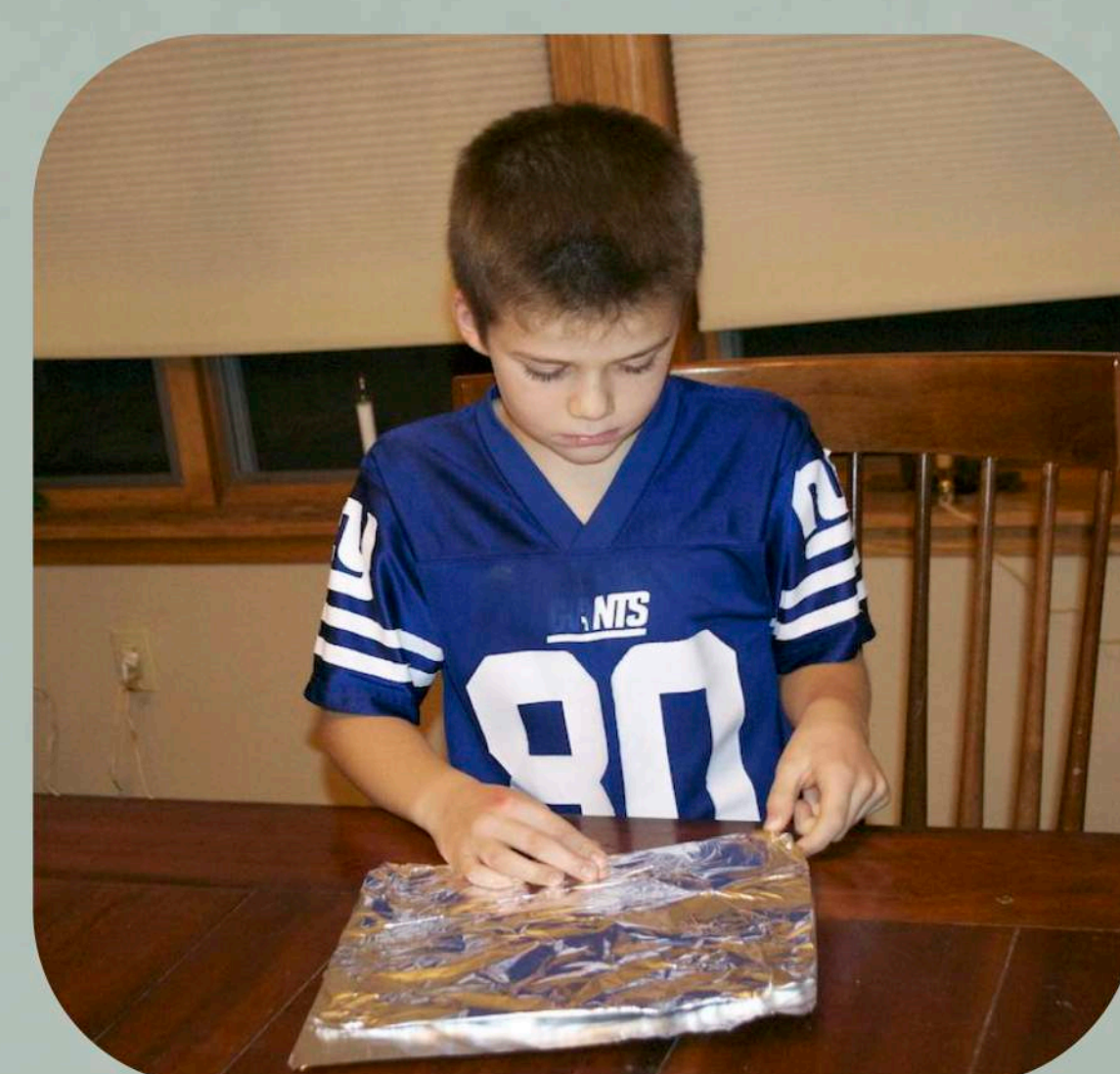
- Entertaining
- Story-based
- Visual

Activity

- Cumulative
- Low cost
- Specific

Debrief

- Review
- Reflect
- Apply



An example of an activity called "Foil Creatures"

Assessment

- Pilot program at Chandler Elementary Community School
- 60 third grade students
- \$0.57 per activity per group
- Surveyed students and teachers



The Likert Scale from the student survey

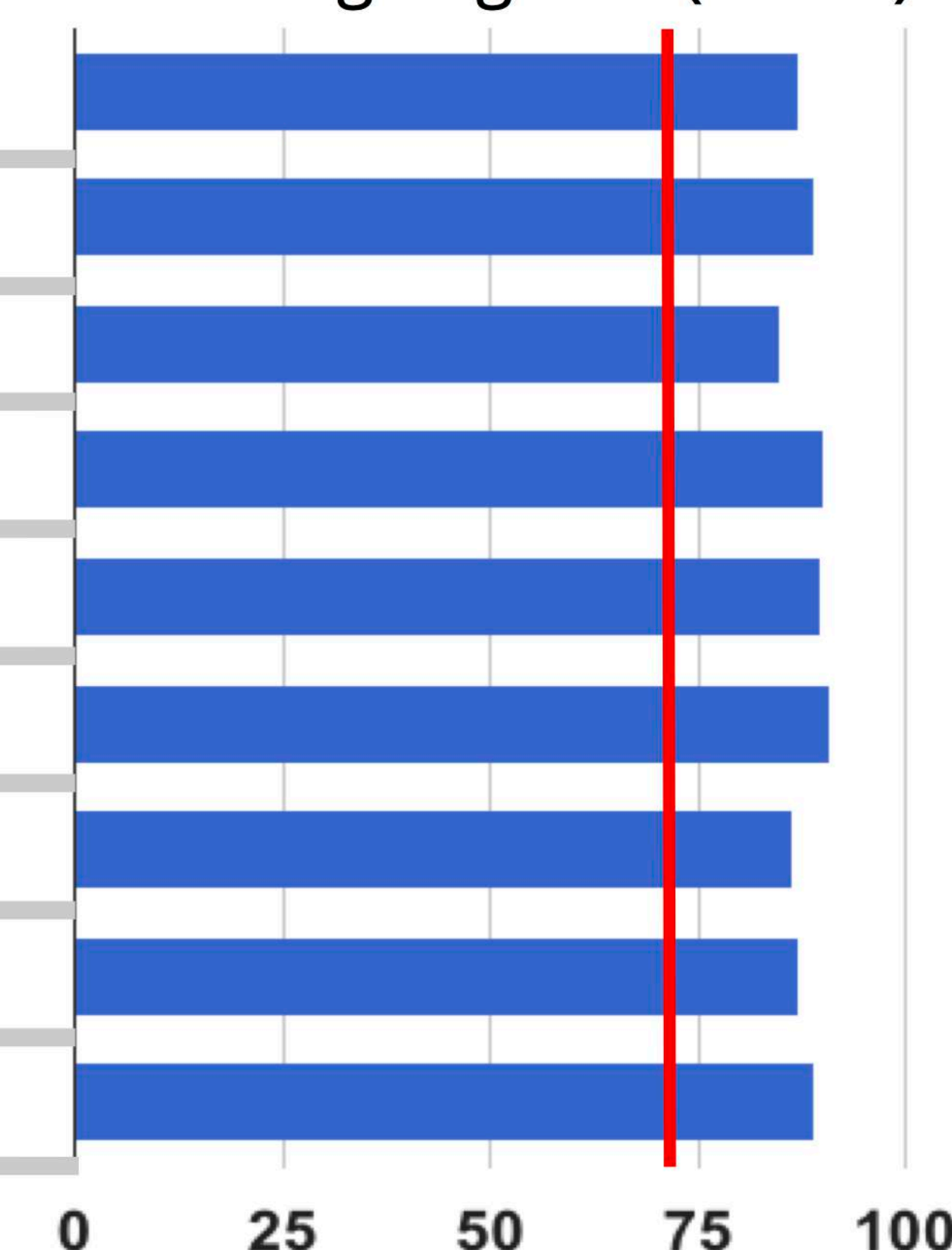


Results

Student Survey

- This activity helped our group work as a team
- This activity helped me be creative
- I can work better in a team now
- I helped to complete the challenge
- I liked this activity and would do it again
- I liked being a secret agent for these missions
- I learned something new about teamwork
- I learned something new about solving problems
- I learned something new about creating ideas

Percentage Agreed (4 or 5)



Having met our goal of 70% agreement, we consider our pilot program a success

Acknowledgments

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References

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