

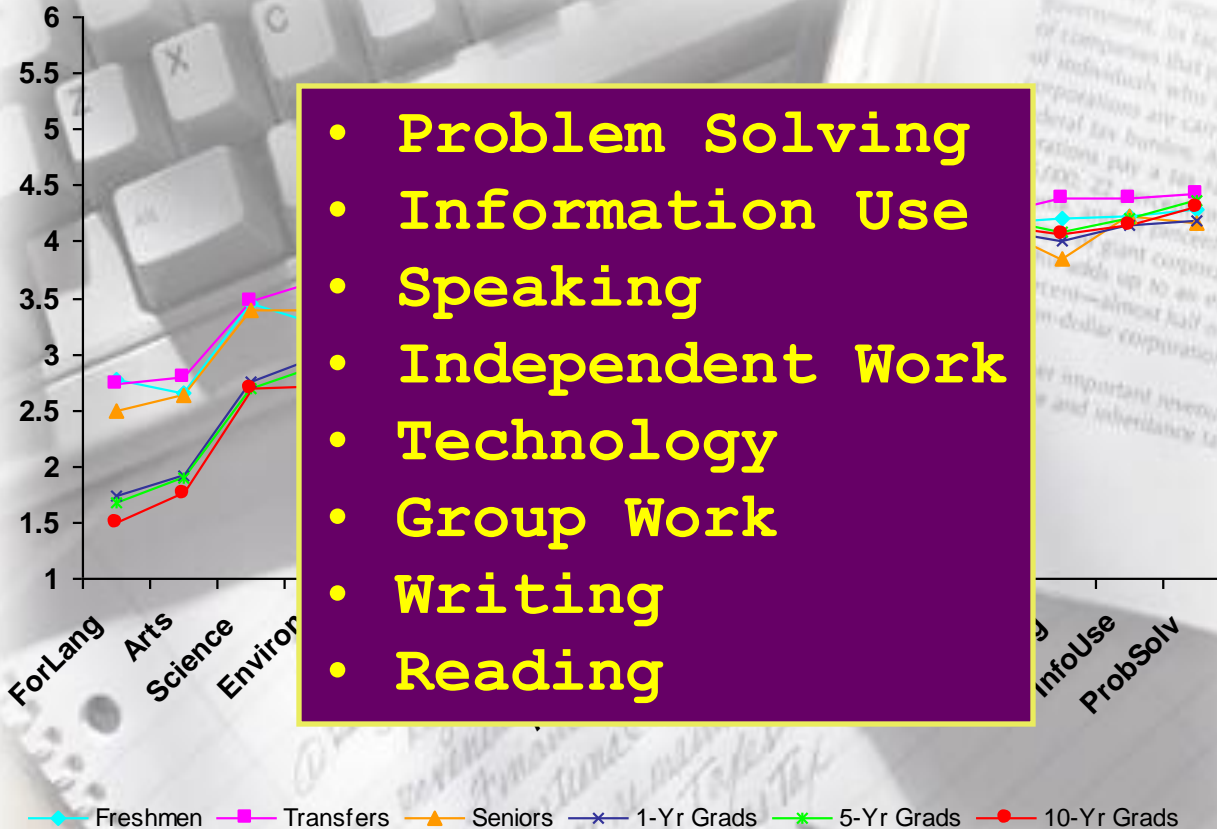
# Introducing



## Approach to Information Problem-Solving



# Survey of Valued Skills



# Information Literacy



“To be information literate, a person must be able **to recognize when information is needed** and have the **ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively** the needed information.”

American Library Association, 1989



**A Widely  
Recognized Need**

# The Big6™ Skills

1. Task Definition

2. Info Seeking Strategies

3. Location & Access

4. Use of Information

5. Synthesis

6. Evaluation





## The Big6™ Skills Model of Information Problem-Solving

### 1. Task Definition:

- 1.1 Define the problem.
- 1.2 Identify the information needed.

### 2. Information Seeking Strategies:

- 2.1 Determine all possible sources.
- 2.2 Select the best sources.

### 3. Location and Access:

- 3.1 Locate sources.
- 3.2 Find information within sources.

### 4. Use of Information:

- 4.1 Engage (e.g., read, hear, view).
- 4.2 Extract relevant information.

### 5. Synthesis:

- 5.1 Organize information from multiple sources.
- 5.2 Present information.

### 6. Evaluation:

- 6.1 Judge the result (effectiveness).
- 6.2 Judge the process (efficiency).

# **Big6 Examples**

***Big6 Workshop Handbook p. 282***

- **1st grade – language arts – ABC book**
- **7th grade – Leon – recycling**
- **10th grade – probability**

# The Big6 Example (p. 282): 7th Grade Social Studies

- Leon -
- Recycling project
- Short paper and oral presentation on the problems and solutions regarding recycling of one type of waste.



# Task Definition



**1.1 Define the problem**

**1.2 Identify the information needed**

**types of information**

# Information Seeking Strategies



**2.1 Determine all possible sources**

**2.2 Select the best sources**

**brainstorm & narrow**

# Lesson: Info Seeking Strategy Criteria

- on the topic (valid)
- reliable/authoritative
- accurate
- precise
- complete
- easy to use
- available
- current
- affordable
- fun

# Location & Access



**3.1 Locate sources**

**3.2 Find information within sources**

**index**

# Use of Information



4.1 Engage (read, hear, view)

4.2 Extract relevant, quality  
information

# relevance

# Synthesis



5.1 Organize

5.2 Present

**medium & message**

# Evaluation



6.1 Judge the result

6.2 Judge the process

**effective & efficient**

# For the Very Young (preK – 1)

## The Super 3



- **Example:**
- **Making a picture of signs of Spring**



# The Super 3

*You are the main character in a story:*

**Beginning - Plan**



**Middle - Do**



**End - Review**

# Super 3 Lesson

Creating a “culture of citing”



Use rubber stamps

▶ book



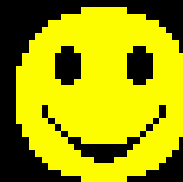
▶ computer



▶ person

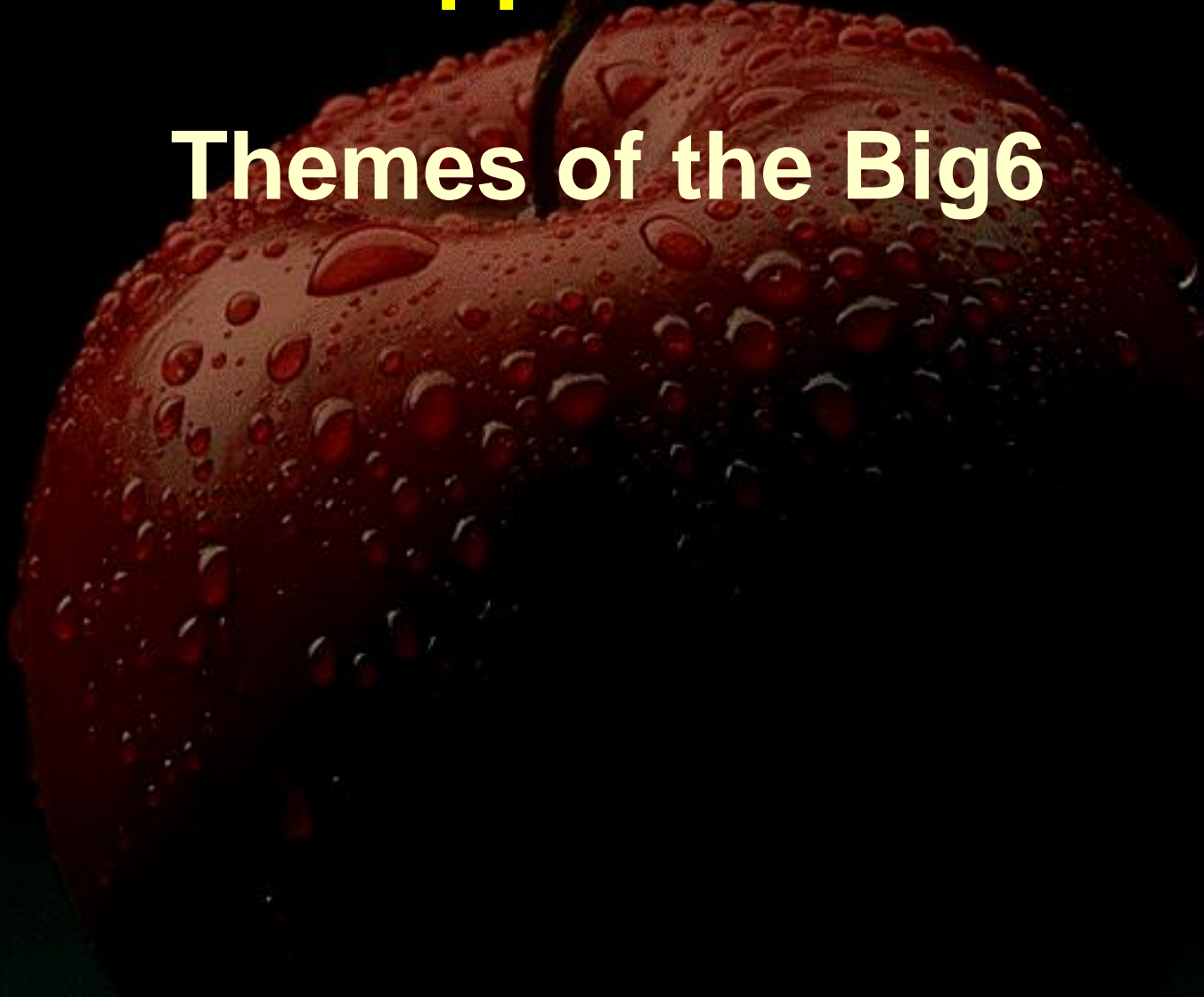


▶ self



# Summary – The Big6 Approach

## Themes of the Big6



# Themes of the Big6

1. The Big6 process can be applied in all subjects, with students of all ages, and across all grade levels (K-20).

**The Big6 is not just for kids.**



# Themes of the Big6

**2. The Big6 is an adaptable and flexible; it can be applied to any information situation.**



# Themes of the Big6




**3. Technology skills take on meaning within the Big6 process.**

# Technology - Out of Context

- Word processing
- E-Mail
- Hyperstudio
- Instant Messaging
- Video production
- Electronic indexes
- Graphics
- PDAs
- Algorithms
- Programming
- Electronic spreadsheets
- Web browsing
- Spell/grammar check
- Upload/download
- Statistical analysis presentation
- Online catalogs
- Database management systems
- Group discussion
- Use of operating systems
- Telnet
- Brainstorming software
- ftp
- HTML
- Web searching
- Multimedia production (PowerPoint)
- Chat
- CAD/CAM
- Copy/paste

# Better, But Still Out of Context

- 
- E-Mail
  - Word processing
  - Group discussion
  - Online catalogs
  - Electronic indexes
  - Web browsing
  - Web searching
  - Electronic spreadsheets
  - Upload/download
  - HTML
  - Spell/grammar check
  - Brainstorming software
  - PDAs
  - Video production
  - Algorithms
  - Instant Messaging
  - Multimedia production (PowerPoint, Hyperstudio)
  - ftp
  - Chat
  - Graphics
  - Database management
  - Inspiration
  - Use of operating systems
  - Web page design
  - Copy/paste
  - Statistical analysis presentation
  - CAD/CAM
  - Telnet
  - Programming



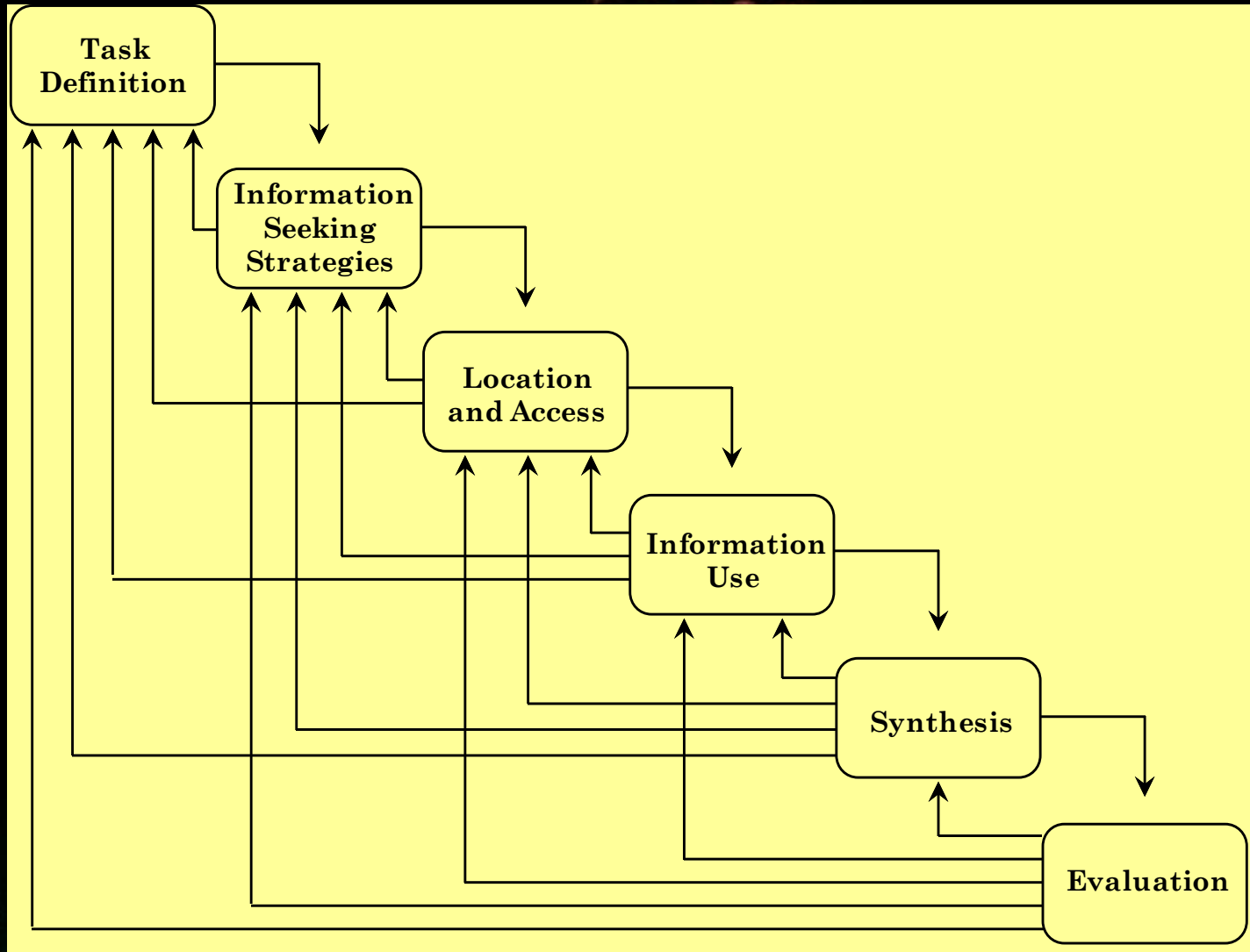
# Technology in Context

<i>TASK DEFINITION</i>	Students use e-mail, listservs, newsgroups, chat, videoconferencing, and other online communication methods to clarify assignments and brainstorm problems. Students may also use software to generate timelines, organizational charts, etc. to plan and organize complex problems
<i>INFO SEEKING STRATEGIES</i>	Students identify and assess computerized resources as they develop information seeking strategies toward their problem.
<i>LOCATION &amp; ACCESS</i>	Students use online catalogs, searchable periodical indexes, electronic encyclopedias, Web search engines, and other online searching tools to locate useful information.
<i>USE OF INFORMATION</i>	Students connect to and access online or locally stored electronic information sources, view, download, and decompress files, and use copy-and-paste features to extract relevant information.
<i>SYNTHESIS</i>	Students organize and communicate their results using word processing, database management, spreadsheet and graphics software, and distribute their projects via e-mail, Web publishing, or other media.
<i>EVALUATION</i>	Students evaluate the impact of the technology they used, including its effectiveness and efficiency

# Themes of the Big6

**4. Using the Big6 is not always a linear, step-by-step process.**

# The Big6: Not Linear



# Themes of the Big6

5. The Big6 process is **necessary** and **sufficient** for solving problems and completing tasks.

# Themes of the Big6



**7. The Big6 is an ideal approach for integrating information literacy learning with all subject area curricula at all grade levels.**

# Teaching and Learning the Big6

The key is...

**Context!**

# Context



## #1 - the process

- information problem solving - the Big6

## #2 - technology in context

- technology within the process

## #3 - curriculum

- real needs in real situations
- assignments: papers, reports, projects
- units and lessons

# **Big6 Skills by Unit Matrix**

The Big6

Task Definition

Information Seeking Strategies

Location & Access

Use of Information

Synthesis

Evaluation

GR	Tchr	Unit	Subject	Assignment	M_Per	1	2	3	4	5	6	Comments





**In Closing...**

# The Big6



- **Essential skills.**
- **A model of the information problem-solving process.**
- **Simple...but not really.**
- **Widely applicable.**
- **Easy to implement.**
- **Powerful.**



Thanks for  
listening!



[www.big6.org](http://www.big6.org)



All Big6 resources available from:

[www.big6.com](http://www.big6.com)