# Profile of the South Carolina Graduate and Ripple Effects Alignment

## Description

South Carolina's Council on Competitiveness launched the initiative "Transform South Carolina," to identify and promote the skills, knowledge and characteristics that young people need to be successful in higher learning, the 21st century workforce and citizenship.

## Three skill sets needed

The initiative identifies three major areas that they think increasingly define a profile of a graduate who will thrive in their work, learning and community.
1. World-class knowledge
2. World-class skills
3. Life and career characteristics

Each of these areas includes skills, knowledge, and expertise in domains that are considered "non-academic." Ripple Effects programs include tutorials that help students gain the knowledge and build the skills and expertise to meet these three areas of focus.

## World-class knowledge

Ripple Effects promotes knowledge acquisition by building student awareness and confidence in themselves as learners, laying the groundwork for students to achieve rigorous standards.

*Ripple Effects Whole Spectrum Learning Platform* is based on a student-directed problem-solving model. Each of the more than 400 topics is introduced with a case study presents a real-world problem, engaging critical thinking necessary to succeed in math, science, technology and social sciences. Extension activities offer a way to apply targeted skills to the learner's family and community, personalizing their learning and promoting social communication, which align with learning standards for language arts.

## World-class skills

*Ripple Effects* programs address the all of the *Profiles'* skill areas:

### Creativity and innovation

***Ripple Effects for Teens* topics:** Asking questions, Brainstorming, Courage, Creativity, Failure, Mindset, Mistakes, Reflecting on performance, Strengths

### Critical thinking and problem solving

Open-ended questions prompt reflective inquiry. The "Apply It" section includes critical thinking exercises applied to technology, media and information. These transfer-training exercises ask students to use higher order thinking in order to analyze scenarios and apply learning to new situations.

***Ripple Effects for Teens* topics:** Brainstorming, Cause and effect, Decisions, Evaluating alternatives, Perseverance, Predicting consequences, Problem – naming, Problem solving, Solutions – trying

### Collaboration, teamwork and communication

***Ripple Effects for Teens* topics:** Asserting yourself, Communications skills, Conversations, Discussions – having, Diversity – appreciating, Group skills, Perspective taking, Reasons – giving, Reliability, Resolving conflict, Responding to others, Responsibility

### Information, Media & Technology

While technology is quickly becoming an inevitable part of childhood, and an integral component of classroom instruction, it also introduces a new set of challenges and necessary skills. *Ripple Effects for Teens* provides several topics that promote health-enhancing behaviors around technology, information, and media.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Addicted – electronics | Online – friends | Online –etiquette |
| Appearance | Online – gaming | Online –reading people |
| Cell phone | Online – harassment | Online- expression |
| Connected | Online – hate | Porn |
| Gaming | Online – rude | Sexting |
| Habits | Online – sexual exploitation | Social media |
| Internet bullying | Online – sharing | |
| Internet safety | | |

### Knowing how to learn

By nurturing positive learning mindsets, developing executive function skills necessary to think critically, and providing the social-emotional capacities to understand and connect with their school communities, Ripple Effects help students develop a sense of agency -- or self-efficacy -- about their learning, which in turn builds academic resiliency.

# Life and career characteristics

Industry and educational leaders have specifically identified personal characteristics students will need to have in order to be successful in higher learning and in the 21st century workplace Ripple Effects addresses these key characteristics:

## Integrity and Work Ethic

Criticism – dealing with
Reliability
Late
Mistakes
Organized
Integrity
Character
Cheating
Lying
Values
Work
Study habits
Responsibility
Education higher
Technical school
Money

## Self-direction

After high school
Effort
Expectations
Future
Goals
Motivation
Performance
Self-determination
Self-efficacy
Time management

## Perseverance

Change – normal
Change – unplanned
Changing feelings
Control –taking
Criticism – dealing with
Discouraged
Growth Mindset
Perseverance
Resilience
Self-efficacy

## Global Perspective and Interpersonal Skills

Asking for help
Asserting yourself
Authority - defying
Authority – dealing with
Communication skills
Competition – winning
Discussions - having
Diversity - appreciating
Expressing feelings
Fairness
Group skills
Groups – joining
Helping others
Introducing yourself
Justice
Making a complaint
Mentors
Networking
Norms
Perspective taking
Resolving conflict
Respect
Values – social