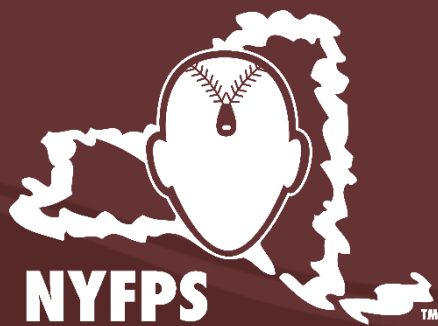


# A Better Future In Six Steps



New York Future Problem  
Solving Program, Inc.

# Six Steps Towards A Brighter Future



**NYFPS is an educational non-profit dedicated to teaching students creative problem solving, collaboration, research, and effective communication skills.**

In 1974, Dr. Ellis Paul Torrance developed Future Problem Solving (FPS) in response to a critical need for curriculum reform. He designed the program to address multiple educational priorities within a single curriculum model, i.e., the decline of creativity and the lack of interest in the future. By 1978, the program involved 300 schools across 26 states and it later became an international program in 1986.

New York Future Problem Solving Program, Inc. (NYFPS) is an affiliate of Future Problem Solving Program International (FPSPI). Currently, FPS has student participants from across more than 29 U.S. states and 12 countries/regions.

- ✓ Teaches critical thinking
- ✓ Stimulates creativity
- ✓ Encourages development of a vision for the future
- ✓ Prepares students for leadership roles.



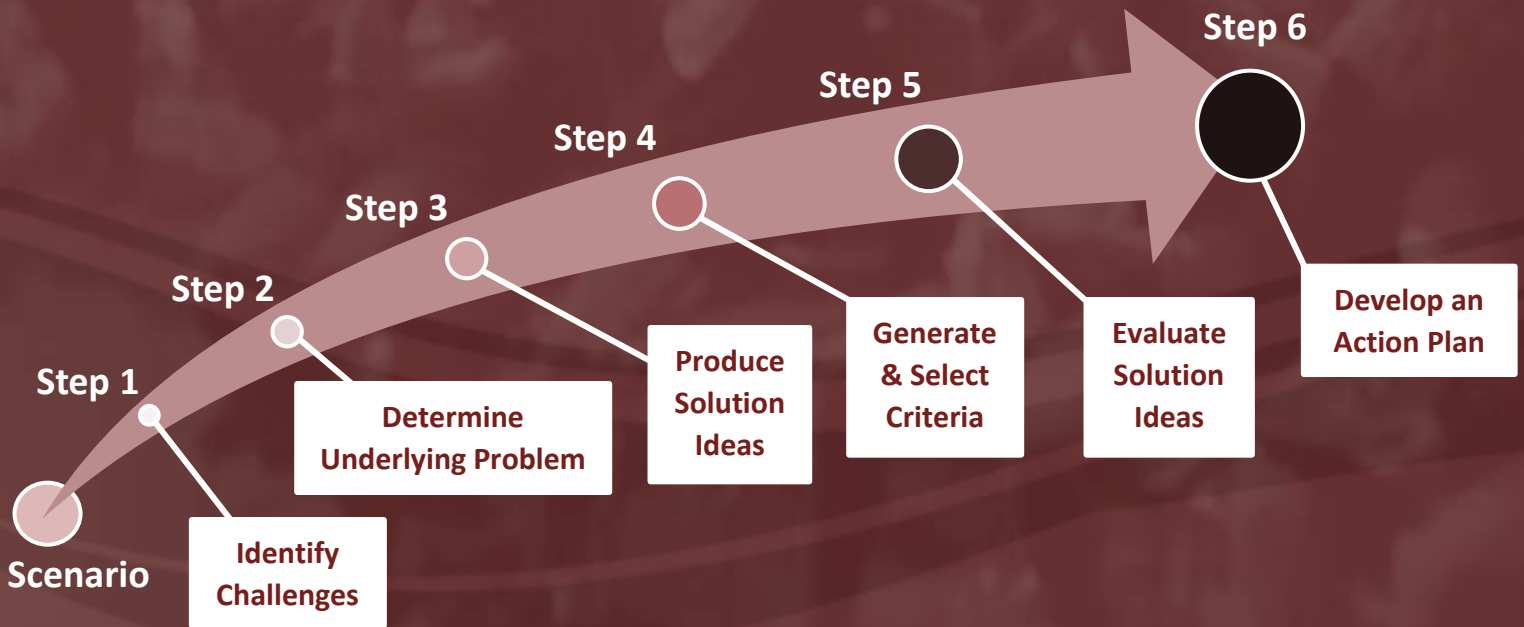
*The program has provided me with a distinct treasure chest. I learned to not only critically think, but also discovered a plethora of skills to help solve any issues I encounter.*

- Isabelle Menjivar, NYFPS Alumna



# Six-Step Framework

FPS teaches a six-step approach which serves as a dynamic framework for creative thinking processes. Dr. Torrance adapted the Creative Problem Solving process, originally developed by Alex Osborn and Sidney Parnes for the business world. It offers students a guide on how to tackle scenarios in a structured and repeatable methodology



## NYFPS At Work

Our program focuses on three key areas to enable us to succeed in our mission:

### Education

Our program provides educational materials and teaches the six-step problem solving framework applied to globally relevant annual topics through a futuristic lens.

### Competitions

Through the competitive components offered by our program, we provide students with opportunities to apply the six-step problem solving process while challenging themselves.

### Engagement

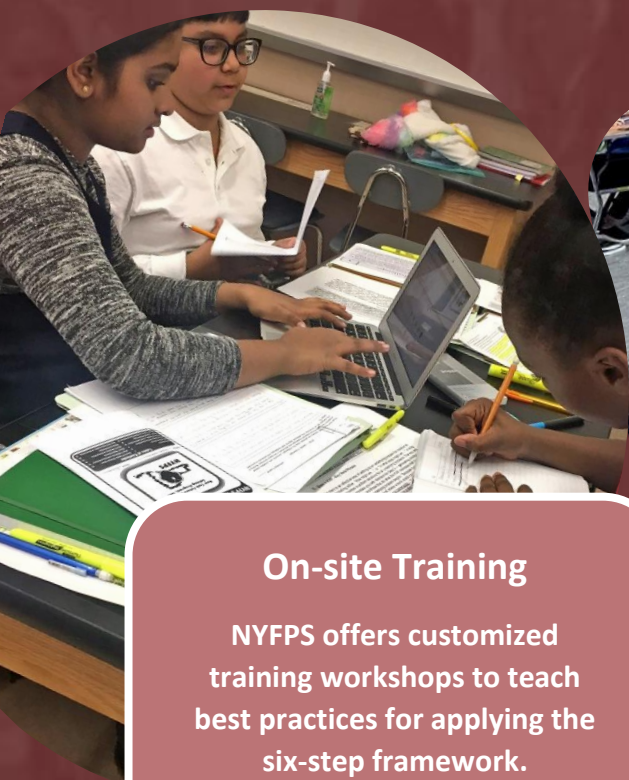
Our active community promotes engagement between participants and motivates outreach; thus, generating a greater positive impact from creative problem solving.



NYFPS Program | Visit us at [nyfps.org](http://nyfps.org)

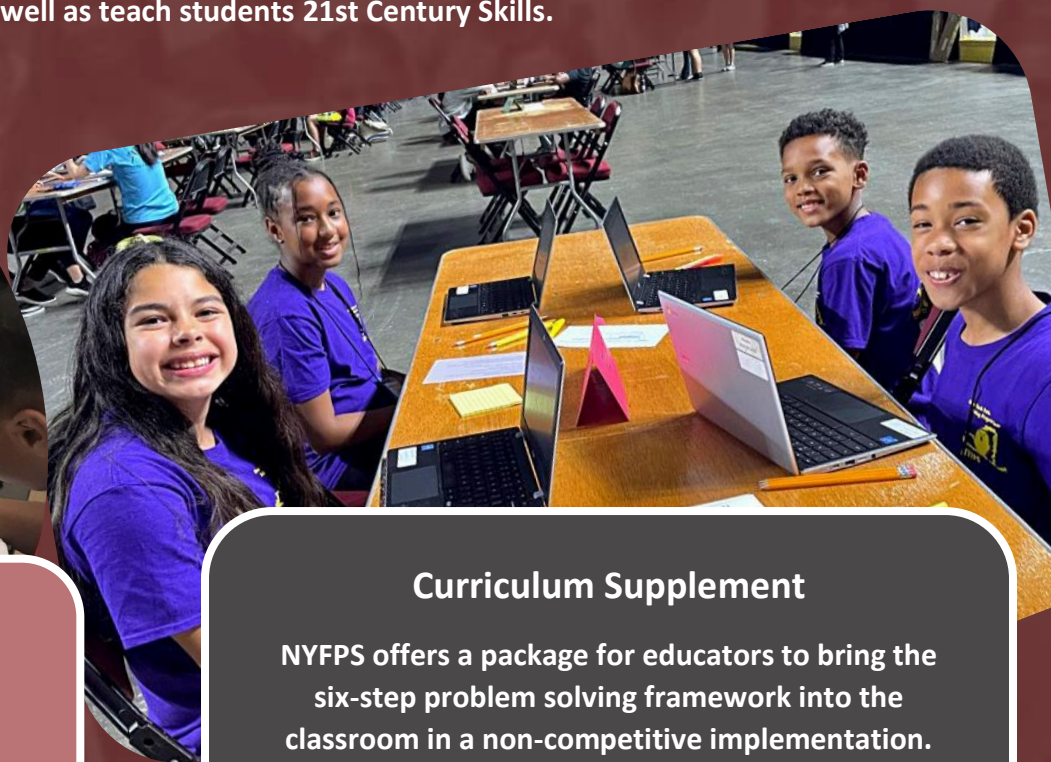
# Integrating FPS Into Instruction

NYFPS provides teachers the opportunity to integrate the six-step problem solving framework into their classroom instruction. FPS aligns with Common Core State Standards Initiative, STEM, and the National Association for Gifted Children's (NAGC) Gifted Education Programming Standards as well as teach students 21st Century Skills.



## On-site Training

NYFPS offers customized training workshops to teach best practices for applying the six-step framework.



## Curriculum Supplement

NYFPS offers a package for educators to bring the six-step problem solving framework into the classroom in a non-competitive implementation. Educators receive the materials and resources for the school year to teach FPS in their classrooms.



*I am extremely thankful to have Future Problem Solvers at Meadow. It has not only allowed me to support our students with improving their critical thinking skills, problem solving, and peer collaboration, but has also enabled me to strengthen my connections with the Meadow students and community – which is something I value deeply.*  
*FPS is a part of who I am as an educator.*

- Emily Clark, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher



# Student Competitions

Students apply what they learned in the classroom to the real-world issues and showcase their grasp of concepts through the New York Student Competitions. Champions in each division of their component will be invited to the International Conference.

## Case Studies

Global Issues Problem Solving (GIPS)

## Creative Writing

Scenario Writing (SW)

## Project-Based

Community Problem Solving (CmPS)

## Divisions

Junior	4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Grades
Middle	7 <sup>th</sup> -9 <sup>th</sup> Grades
Senior	10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grades



*I've developed my communication, critical-thinking, and problem-solving skills.*

*Some of my best friends have been with me since day one and we have blossomed together, especially in how we interact and think.*

- Amber Marquez, NYFPS Alumna



# State Conference

Every March, students from across New York State compete in the respective components at the State Conference. The event is an exciting opportunity for participants to meet their peers from across New York.

Past State Conferences have been held at Tompkins Square Middle School, Iona Preparatory School, Molloy College, Freeport High School, and Baldwin Middle School.



*FPS has significantly improved my ability to solve complex and unique problems not only in the classroom, but in real life as well.*

*As I prepare to attend Columbia University, I am forever thankful for my time as an FPS member.*

**- Jeffrey Hernandez, NYFPS Alum**



# International Conference

Champions from the New York State Conference will represent New York at the annual five-day event in June. Alongside the competition events, student and teachers can also network at the social events.

Attendees meet Future Problem Solvers from different states and countries. The event is held at the campus of a U.S. university. Recent venues have included UMass Amherst, University of Wisconsin–La Crosse, and Michigan State University.



# Community Engagement

NYFPS provides the catalyst for participants to engage their peers and communities on relevant issues. These engagements have a lasting positive impact. As Future Problem Solvers, participants contribute to an active network that spans the globe. Our program also endeavors to spread awareness about the importance of creative problem solving and encourage greater collaboration towards fulfilling NYFPS' mission.



*As their coach, I have been able to facilitate their learning through the teaching of thinking routines, provide creative opportunities for students to grow their knowledge, and to support their collaborative action plan.*

*This program is great for all schools because it allows students the opportunity to make a change within their community.*

**- Pria Das, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher**







*The genius of the future will be the creative mind  
adapting itself to the shape of things to come.*

- Dr. E. Paul Torrance, FPS Founder

