

NHLI **BEST** Communication Progressions

9-12

SELF-ASSESSMENT

Self-Awareness & Reflection

How am I using my past learning and my strengths to clearly communicate or interpret meaning when I listen, respond, speak, or write?

Context & Message

How do I use my knowledge of language and context to interpret a message or to help me plan my communications?

Establishing Meaning

How do I decide which sources, examples, or format to use when I'm developing and sharing ideas and interpreting ideas of others?

Delivery & Expression

How do tone, emphasis, and nonverbal cues help to convey or interpret a message and engage others?

SELF-ASSESSMENT

Monitoring & Adapting

How do I use verbal/nonverbal feedback to keep my audience engaged, monitor my emotional responses, and make changes when needed?

Extending



Self-Directed /
Leads Others

I can also...

identify communication skills that best complement my personal preferences and strengths and apply them to new tasks.

I can also...

integrate prior learning and context-based language to create an interpretive lens for formal and informal communications.

I can also...

tailor the format and supporting sources/examples to enhance clarity and engage different audience member perspectives or raise awareness of cultural norms.

I can also...

evaluate the effectiveness of my use tone, nonverbal cues, or digital tools to emphasize meaning and fluidly deliver a message.

I can also...

describe how my personal speaking and writing styles and techniques have been modified over time to improve my message and engage my audience.

Applying



Independent &
Consistent

I can also...

use analyses of past communications to plan more effective approaches related to different audiences or communication modes.

I can also...

choose language and an approach that matches purpose, audience, cultural norms, and formality of context to plan and deliver communications.

I can also...

choose an effective format and supporting sources/examples to elicit a desired response from the intended audience.

I can also...

plan and deliver presentations integrating tone with the use of nonverbal cues and digital tools to emphasize meaning and maintain audience engagement.

I can also...

analyze my past successes and challenges when speaking, writing, or responding and set a goal for improvement using reflections on my past work.

Developing



With Structured
Guidance

I can also...

analyze how my communication strengths and challenges relate to purpose, planning, familiarity with context, or my chosen approach.

I can also...

analyze context-based language and approaches used by others for different purposes/audiences and interpret their messages.

I can also...

analyze how the sources and examples used in a communication help to interpret implicit meanings, varying perspectives, or cultural norms.

I can also...

speak, write, or perform expressively applying my understanding of different purposes and communication tools and modes.

I can also...

identify and evaluate strategies I've used to increase my participation and be more actively engaged when speaking and responding.

Emerging



Requires Direct
Prompting

I can...

identify how strategies used or observed in prior speaking and writing experiences help to create different modes of communication.

I can...

show my understanding of context using descriptive, technical, and content-specific language to communicate or interpret formal and informal messages.

I can...

evaluate the relevance and quality of potential sources and examples for specific purposes, audiences, and contexts.

I can...

analyze how effectively others use tone and nonverbal cues (e.g., gestures, props, visuals, auditory) to emphasize meaning and engage an audience.

I can...

use suggestions from others to make my speaking, writing, or responding more engaging and inclusive of differing viewpoints.