Grades 6-8

Big Ideas:

• It is important to continue to consider alternative solutions throughout the process.
• Criteria and constraints establish the requirements of the design.
• The steps in the process can be performed in different sequences and repeated as needed.
• Every problem is unique, and engineers and designers may choose to approach the design process in different ways.
• Brainstorming is a group problem-solving process in an open form without criticism.
• Modeling, testing, evaluating, and modifying are used to transform ideas into practical solutions.

Grades 9-12

Big Ideas:

• Established design principles are used to evaluate existing design, to collect data, and to guide the design process. The principles include: flexibility, balance, function, and proportion.
• Engineering design is influenced by personal characteristics, such as creativity, resourcefulness, and the ability to visualize and think abstractly.
• A prototype is a working model that is used to test a design concept by making actual observations and necessary adjustments.
• An engineer must not only design a product that works—s/he must consider many other factors, such as safety, environmental concerns, ethical considerations, and risks and benefits.

EbD™ Standards-Based Model

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