STEM Student of the Month
December 2020
Problem-Solver
Problem-Solver

“a thinker who focuses on the problem as stated and tries to synthesize information and knowledge to achieve a solution”

-vocabulary.com
What’s the connection?
This year, our theme as a school is Ignite and Inspire, TBK8 is on fire! While we continue to reach beyond the stars at TBK8, this year we are going where no one has gone before, exploring new ways of learning and working together, and igniting the potential in every TBK8 tiger. It takes a team approach to support every student, just as it takes a team approach to have a successful rocket launch. Each role in the Space industry is important as many of these roles exemplify a STEM mindset. Therefore, each month a trait will be represented by one of the space industry roles or careers.

Avionics Technicians
These technicians attend to the communication, navigation, and other systems central to aircraft and spacecraft. Their tasks may include testing electronic instruments, installing instrument panels, and replacing malfunctioning components. They also make a record of any problems and repairs, information engineers may then use for improving future designs. It takes a true problem-solver to be an Avionics Technician!
Pre-Kindergarten

STEM Student of the Month: Problem-Solver
Olivia is very independent and likes to do things for herself. Before asking for help, she always tries to attempt things on her own for herself and for her classmates. She works well with her classmates in the classroom and on the playground. Olivia never gives up and has a great working attitude!
Olivia Thomas

Olivia is a wonderful addition to our Pre-K school family! She is working very hard to participate in class activities and complete assignments as she learns at home during this time of eLearning! She likes to talk with her teachers and peers, answer questions and share her ideas with others. She is a problem solver, even in the eLearning environment. We are proud of the progress she has made thus far and look forward to her continued development! Congratulations Olivia!
Kindergarten

STEM Student of the Month: Problem-Solver
Ryann will speak up and help other students make the right choices. She will tell them what they have done wrong. She will tell them what good choices they should make, and how to solve their problems.
In our classroom we enjoy Olivia. She always has the right mindset to help us through our learning mistakes. Olivia works hard and never gives up!
Tajsa Williams

- Tajsa is always willing to think through a problem and offer a solution. She also helps her friends problem solve.
Max Gonzalez

Max is an amazing student who could have earned this award for many different STEM Traits but we chose him for Problem Solver because he is growing in his independence. He figures out a way to get his goals accomplished and even helps his friends solve their problems. He is a wonderful part of our class and I appreciate his problem-solving skills.
Grayson Pereira

Grayson was voted by his classmates as a problem solver! Whenever he sees a classmate frustrated, he stops and offers ideas for other ways they can try to complete the task. He taught his class how to make paper airplanes and offers assistance and ideas for how to make others planes fly better!
Jacob Blackwell

- Jacob is our class problem solver! He is wonderful at solving problems in class and around the school! For example, when Jacob sees that a friend needs help, he asks them what is wrong and then tries to figure out what can be done for them. When he notices trash on the ground, he throws it away instead of telling the teacher. He figures out what he needs to do by himself! Great job Jacob!
Benjamin Bushey

- Ben is a problem solver. He is reflective when finding a solution to a problem. Ben tries to make good choices that are helpful to everyone. We are proud of him!
1st Grade

STEM Student of the Month: Problem-Solver
Yosmani Naylor

- Yosmani is great at thinking outside the box to come up with a solution. He is always determined to solve whatever problem he is faced with. Awesome Job Yosmani!
Jessa Bolinger

- Jessa is excellent at solving problems big or small. She thinks and acts quickly. She has creative and original ideas when it comes to problem solving. She even helps her friends solve their problems!! Way to go!
David is a great problem-solver! He takes the challenge or task given to him and tries to find multiple ways to solve it. David is a hard-worker and is determined to solve problems.
Domanike King

- Domanike has grown so much in problem solving! When mistakes happen or things aren't going his way he has such a positive attitude about finding another solution! He always has ideas and suggestions for ways to solve problems, he even goes above and beyond and shares his ideas with his classmates! We're so proud of you Domanike!
Valentine joined our class and jumped right in! She is a problem solver in all areas of life. Whenever someone in our class has a problem, Valentine uses innovative ways to solve it! She is always calm and knows there is always a solution to the problem! Way to go, Valentine!
Congratulations to Annika for being our eLearning Problem Solver! She is always able to use her creativity & critical thinking to solve any problem she is presented with! Keep up the good work, Annika! :-}
Brayden Bryan

- Brayden is always coming up with creative ways of solving problems. He makes great connections between what we're learning and things he already knows. He's able to think "outside the box" and pursues answers to lingering questions.
Sophia Pucillo

- Sophia is always trying to help others! She has wonderful ideas to help with problem solving with her classmates. Great Job Sophia!
Sei'veon Medley

- Sei'veon is a wonderful, hard-working student. When faced with a problem or challenge at school, Sei'veon looks for solutions instead of giving up. He even offers assistance to peers who need help solving problems. Keep up the great work, Sei'veon! :)}
Avishka is always able to think of a way to solve a problem: even when it’s not her problem! If someone during class is not able to figure something out, she jumps to the rescue and makes a suggestion. Way to go Avishka; keep up the great work!
2nd Grade

STEM Student of the Month: Problem-Solver
Griffen Loosvelt

- Griffen is a great problem-solver! He has a very diplomatic way of asking questions to uncover if a problem or mistake has been made. He pays close attention to the directions for his assignments.

- Griffen is always calm and patient when helping his classmates.
Ekansh Suxena

Ekansh is our STEM student of the month because he is always willing to help his classmates and myself work through a problem. Our eLearning platform has been a new challenge for all of us this year. However, Ekansh uses his creative mind to find new ways to work around issues or create resolutions. He is a decision maker and this helps promote team building and trust within our class. Congratulations!
Leylah Louis

Leylah is terrific at solving problems in math, and in many other ways too. She looks at things so carefully, and uses her critical thinking to figure it out. She is terrific at sharing her thinking, and asking the right questions to solve what she is working on. Keep up the great work, Leylah!
Emma Adee

- When problems arise, Emma is quick to handle things herself. Problem solving skills are one of her strengths. I usually don't have to worry about situations, because she will usually find a reasonable way to resolve the problem without involving me or others. This is an excellent leadership skills that she has.
Linah has fit in naturally to the key role of problem solver within our classroom community. She has displayed her problem-solving ability within math class by utilizing various strategies to independently solve mathematical equations. As table captain, Linah has also helped those around her solve their problems as well such as explaining the current task to peers if they need assistance, checking their work, and helping them remain on task. Thank you for all you do, Linah; you are greatly appreciated :)}
We have an “ask 3 before me” rule in our classroom. Jada is always the first person students go to. She is always willing to help others solve their problems. My favorite part is that she not only assists in solving the problem, she is also their biggest cheerleader—giving encouragement along the way!
Charlie is always looking for a way to solve any problem thrown his way and never gives up! He even takes it a step further and helps our friends with their challenges. We are so lucky to have a problem-solver in our class! Congratulations Charlie!
Matthew is a wonderful example of being a problem solver in our Elearning class. Whenever Matthew is having technical difficulties on Zoom, he solves them independently. If he is having trouble submitting classwork through our normal submit button, he will always email me a copy of his work. I would also like to note, that Matthew is wonderful at classroom participation. He’s always happy and engaged in our Zoom classes. Congratulation Matthew!!
3rd Grade

STEM Student of the Month: Problem-Solver
Zachariah Syed

- Zachariah was an easy choice for our STEM Student of the Month for problem solving. He doesn’t give up or get frustrated when he encounters a challenge. Zachariah is a creative thinker who listens well in class. He offers answers to almost every question that is asked of him. We think he's awesome!
Athena is a pleasure to have in class! She is always thinking of creative ways to solve problems and think outside the box. She tries to help other students in class when they are stuck trying to solve a problem! She is a wonderful student to have in class!
Keyoni Borders

- Keyoni is a hard worker and our class voted her as the STEM Student of the Month. Way to Go Keoni!!
Sireen is a wonderful example of a problem solver. She is great at participating and always has awesome answers, suggestions, and comments to whatever is going on in the classroom. Sireen can always be counted on to have both her classwork and homework complete. She is polite and respectful to both peers and adults. Sireen truly deserves to be a Student of the Month at Turner Bartels! Congratulations, Sireen!
Dylan has become quite the problem solver when solving mathematical problems. He is using a wide variety of strategies in the home and school to tackle grade level mathematical concepts. He has shown tremendous improvement this year and continues to strive for excellence daily. Keep up the hard work!
Congratulations Hannah! Hannah is a great problem solver in our class. She easily comes up with solutions when a problem occurs and shares her ideas/thoughts with her peers.
Jayden Fung

- Jayden never let's anything stop him. Whenever there is a problem whether it's his problem or not he is always quick to find strategies to overcome it. Jayden has a bright future ahead of him.
Alex is a terrific problem solver! If he has a question about an assignment, he never hesitates to ask. When he notices things that might cause his classmates to have problems, he is quick to point it out and offer strategies to solve it. Many times he has helped find solutions to tech issues we have had in our eLearning class. When faced with a challenge, Alex does not give up until he finds a way to reach his goal. He sets a great example for others in our class for problem solving.
Gianni sees problems as opportunities, a chance to learn something new, to grow, to succeed, or to prove that “it can be done!” During Science, he develops well thought out conclusions. In math he is a most astute problem solver and recognizes that there is almost always more than one solution, so he develops several alternatives from which to choose. I’m so proud of Gianni’s Problem Solving in my eLearning class.
Ernie is our STEM student of the month. He is a great asset to our classroom. When confronted with a problem, he doesn't give up easily. Instead, Ernie is persistent until he finds a solution to the problem. This is evident when work is challenging, such as, identifying the author's point of view in text. In addition, he is a mediator when it comes to helping his friends with their own challenges. We are so lucky to have Ernie as a member of our classroom family.
4th Grade

STEM Student of the Month: Problem-Solver
Ayden Ruiz

- Ayden is a fantastic problem solver. He is always looking for solutions and offers helps to peers who ask for it. He is a team leader and helps his team work cooperatively. Ayden is able to think outside of the box and discover different routes to solving a problem.
Eric Ferguson

- Eric is the perfect example of a problem solver. He uses out of the box thinking in solving challenging math problems. His thinking is very creative and he uses it in all aspects. Continue being an out of the box thinker Eric!
DJ Jones

- DJ is a problem solver. He has tackled the challenges of eLearning and shown growth. Good job, DJ. Mrs. Burgos is so proud of you!
We are so proud of Jeremy and his problem solving mentality. Jeremy especially excels in solving problems that have to do with technology. Anyone that can get one of our old outdated clamshell laptop computers to work, is VERY deserving of an award.
Amaury is very inquisitive. He enjoys looking for answers and always looks beyond just the question. He likes to investigate further and find out why something is happening or how something works. Thank you Amaury for being such an excellent Problem Solver. Our world needs more amazing students like you! :)
Our class voted and we all agree that Ezra is very deserving of the problem solving award this month. "He is good at solving our computer problems, he is always helping us when we have technical issues on zoom, and he knows how to solve a lot of problems and helps others when they have problems that are hard for them." These are just of the reasons he was picked. Ezra is hard working and always the first to help a student when they are in need.
Phillip Mateo

- We are so proud of Phillip he constantly demonstrates quick problem solving skills for our classroom. When a computer is down he is the one to fix it. When a student is in need of assistance with a math problem, directions, or even playing a good game of soccer Phillip is the one to work through the problem and find a positive way to fix or have a solution! Congratulations Phillip!
5th Grade

STEM Student of the Month: Problem-Solver
Maxwell Hmurcik

- Max is our student of the month for problem solving because he is always willing to talk through an issue with classmates without using "blaming" words. With Max leading the discussion, he and his friends work through their disagreements and problem solve together.
Sanai is a wonderful contributor to our class community. Her answers are always well thought out and involve higher order thinking skills. Sanai is able to think out of the box and come up with amazing answers to the most complex questions. I am so proud of you! Keep up the amazing work!
Afnan Khalifeh

- Afnan continuously looks for ways to problem solve with reading comprehension questions, math problems, and science discoveries. In addition, Afnan seeks out ways to help her teachers and fellow classmates work out problems whether this is socially, academically, or just as she sees a person in need of help physically or emotionally.
Juntriya is receiving this award because of her ability to problem solve no matter how difficult the challenge is.
Naia Barbado

- Naia is always willing to offer support to students when needed. She often helps students with navigating Canvas, finding pages in their textbook, and answering questions. I can always rely on Naia to help her classmates solve eLearning issues.
During e-Learning, it has been difficult to determine a problem-solver relating to academics because of the different way of teaching. However, we have plenty of problems that arise throughout the day that relate to technology, and Nikitha is the first to jump in and offer solutions. As a matter of fact, she just takes over (in a good way) and starts explaining the different steps to take to solve the issue at hand. It has been a life-saver for me.
Mrs. Cogan’s class STEM Student of the month for Problem Solving is Joshua Atanasio. When working on math problems he doesn't give up if a problem is challenging. He perseveres until he has solved it. If there is a dispute at recess playing soccer or kickball, he will talk with the other students about options for settling it so they can get back to playing. His hard work and dedication in class and out of class does not go unnoticed. Keep up the good work Joshua.
Srivika is a highly motivated student who puts her best effort into all her work! When she encounters problems, she carefully considers possible solutions before she asks for feedback or assistance. Her classmates and I also benefit from her problem-solving skills because she always has a solution for technical difficulties that we encounter in eLearning!
6th Grade

STEM Student of the Month: Problem-Solver
Alyssa Michel-Hurt

- Alyssa is definitely our class problem solver. The minute she notices that someone in our class is struggling with a task or understanding, she jumps right in to help figure out a way to help that person! Alyssa is a natural problem solver and is always willing to help our classroom run as efficiently as possible!
Griffin Sharpe

- Griffin has been very great in eLearning class. Whenever there is a problem he can fix it.
Since returning from eLearning, Marly has been an exceptional student. Though she does not yet have her own workbook for class, she is a problem solver. She is has been doing an exceptional job of keeping up in class and taking her own thorough and detailed notes! Marly is truly a problem solver in our class!
K'mari Hargrove

- K'mari really enjoys PE and is always willing to help get things started so he can have fun. He takes it upon himself to solve any issues with the equipment or the teams to make them even. He has problem solved numerous times this year.
My nominee is Yasma Abudhirafah. She is a great problem solver. She is able to give helpful suggestions to other students in class when they have tech issues. Yasma also helps her brothers at home with eLearning.
Cherry Rivas

- Cherry is an excellent problem solver! She shows great perseverance when solving many different math problems in class. She does a great job in decoding math problems and trying many different strategies when it comes to solving them.
7th Grade

STEM Student of the Month: Problem-Solver
Sephera Carreras

- Sephera has always been very good at figuring out creative solutions to solving complex problems in math. Congratulations Sephera!
Erica Hernandez-Diaz

- Ericka is able to work things out in a diplomatic, non-partisan way. She doesn't say a lot. She let's her actions speak for her.
She's always helping other students with their work, if anyone has an issue in the class they know Gabby can solve it!
J'sani has done a complete turnaround and solved all his problems to get all his makeup work to raise his grade 2 levels. :)
Elijah is an excellent student who is always looking to problem solve
Kristen Bokneitz

- Kristen has been an excellent asset to our class. She is very active in class (and takes part in the morning announcements as well). She is not the type to dwell on the problem but instead she looks for a solution. Her eagerness to find solutions and take care of business is noticeable and appreciated. It is great to have Kristen utilizing her positive qualities to make the class even better.
Riley Downs

- Riley is an amazing student who rises to the occasion for every difficult task. She is even great with group projects and helping her classmates succeed. She never gives up no matter what she is doing.
Matthew Cocker

- Great Student
I have had the privilege of watching Madison grow over the past two years. She gets very anxious over everyday situations. This year she has taken that anxiety and become a problem solver. When she is faced with a problem that makes her anxious she talks through it, until she is able to come to a solution that works for her. I am so proud of the progress that she is making!
8th Grade

STEM Student of the Month: Problem-Solver
Pranava is a problem solver. Pranava tries to gather all the facts (ask several questions) then apply a solution to every situation. He has been a leader and a great team mate working on AVID projects.
Jordani Blanc

Jordani is our problem solver student of the month. He is always ready to take on any task given to him. He will stay focused and complete the task no matter what is thrown his way.
Thank you for always willing to solve something by yourself first.
Because he is awesome! That is all.
Faculty & Staff

Primary: Lexy Bontrager

Mrs. Bontrager is a Problem Solver at TBK8. Problems arise daily and with no notice. Mrs. Bontrager will quickly work her team to develop solutions and implement with ease!

Intermediate: Theresa Soby

Ms. Soby doesn’t let anything get in her way when problems arise! She gladly tackles them with a smile and doesn’t see problems....she sees solutions!!

Secondary: Kelon Poster

Kelon Poster is middle school Problem Solver because she works to find a solution for all task assigned and unassigned to her. She has volunteered in several areas within the school; taking on task not directly related to her current position. She has helped create schedules, take on students, be the go to for all electives and attend meetings that she is not scheduled for so that she can disseminate the information to her colleagues. Thank you for your hard work and dedication.
Faculty & Staff

- Leadership Team: LaMarr Buggs

As our fearless leader at TBK8, Mr. Buggs is presented with problems all throughout the day. Without missing a beat, Mr. Buggs provides solutions and solves problems, all while maintaining positive relationships with all TBK8 stakeholders. Thank you for all that you do for us Mr. Buggs!

- Support: Sheila Swain

Mrs. Swain is our unsung hero! In a moments notice, Mrs. Swain takes the smallest idea, problem, or task, and transforms it into a success! She is resourceful, efficient, and always reliable to solve a problem and help TBK8 shine!
Congratulations!

Congratulations to all of our TBK8 Tigers who are the role models of problem solving! Keep working hard and you will always reach your goals. Your TBK8 teachers and administration are very proud of you!