

MyWays Whole-Student Competency Plot

Description:

The Whole-Student Competency Plot, created in Microsoft Excel, lets you customize and engage with MyWays competencies and make the information visual. The competency plot tool reinforces the importance of the whole set of competencies (meaning: not just Content Knowledge) and can be used for a range of practical purposes as described below.

Purpose:

The act of visualizing information can help us understand it differently, and that's the ultimate purpose of this tool — giving you another way into thinking about the connection between the competencies and how that plays out in our students' lives and learning. See Tia's model below as an example of this.

Instructions for Use:

Because the Whole-Student Competency Plot is created in Excel, when you download it you will find specific instructions for how to modify the tables. As you use the tool:

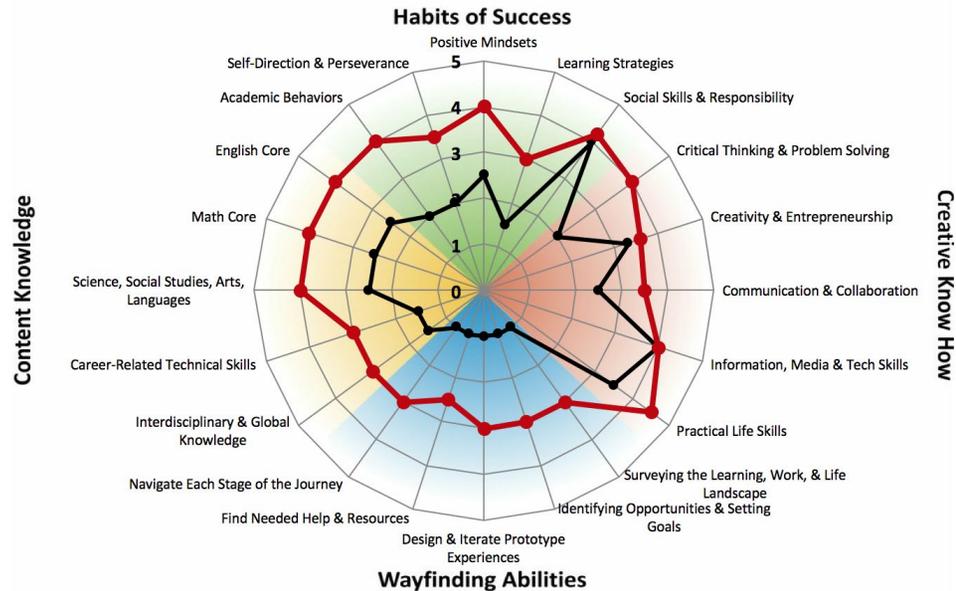
1. Take a look at the example of Tia below as a model.
2. Consider plotting a student's current status and future goals, or modify the exercise to use the tool for an assessment or visualization of your learning program's goals and/or progress.
3. Select one of the scales provided within the instructions, modify one of those scales, or use another scale of your own creation.
4. For purposes of this exercise, enter values for each competency based on actual data or simply through your informed experience. Consider, just for practice, having participants informally create a plot for students they know, or for your own children, or for themselves at age 8 or 12 or 16 or 20. Generate plot(s).
5. Once you have generated the plots, discuss them as a group and the new insights that arise. Come up with a joint analysis and action plan based on that analysis.

Example:

Here is a model of how to use this tool. In it, we analyze a fictional student named Tia, a 14-year-old living in Boston. (We created Tia's story based on two real students in Boston.)

In the screenshot below, Tia (black line) is being compared to on-grade level targets (red line). Tia's low-income background and moderate dyslexia have contributed to her lower score in Content Knowledge, but she has strengths in other arenas, like Creative Know How and Wayfinding Abilities. The plot lets us see that well, and begin to think about how to develop those competencies more.

Student Competencies for Success in College, Career and Life



SCALE: 1-Emerging, 2-Developing, 3-Performing, 4-Exceeding, 5-Excelling



Enter data here:

Category	Competency	Black Line	Red Line
CK	English Core	2.5	4
CK	Math Core	2.5	4
CK	Science, Social Studies, Arts, Languages	2.5	4
CK	Career-Related Technical Skills	1.5	3
CK	Interdisciplinary & Global Knowledge	1.5	3
HOS	Academic Behaviors	2	4
HOS	Self-Direction & Perseverance	2	3.5
HOS	Positive Mindsets	2.5	4
HOS	Learning Strategies	1.5	3
HOS	Social Skills & Responsibility	4	4.2
CKH	Critical Thinking & Problem Solving	2	4
CKH	Creativity & Entrepreneurship	3.3	3.6
CKH	Communication & Collaboration	2.5	3.5
CKH	Information, Media & Tech Skills	4	4
CKH	Practical Life Skills	3.5	4.5
WA	Surveying the Learning, Work, & Life Landscape	1	3
WA	Identifying Opportunities & Setting Goals	1	3
WA	Design & Iterate Prototype Experiences	1	3
WA	Find Needed Help & Resources	1	2.5
WA	Navigate Each Stage of the Journey	1	3

Black Line: _____

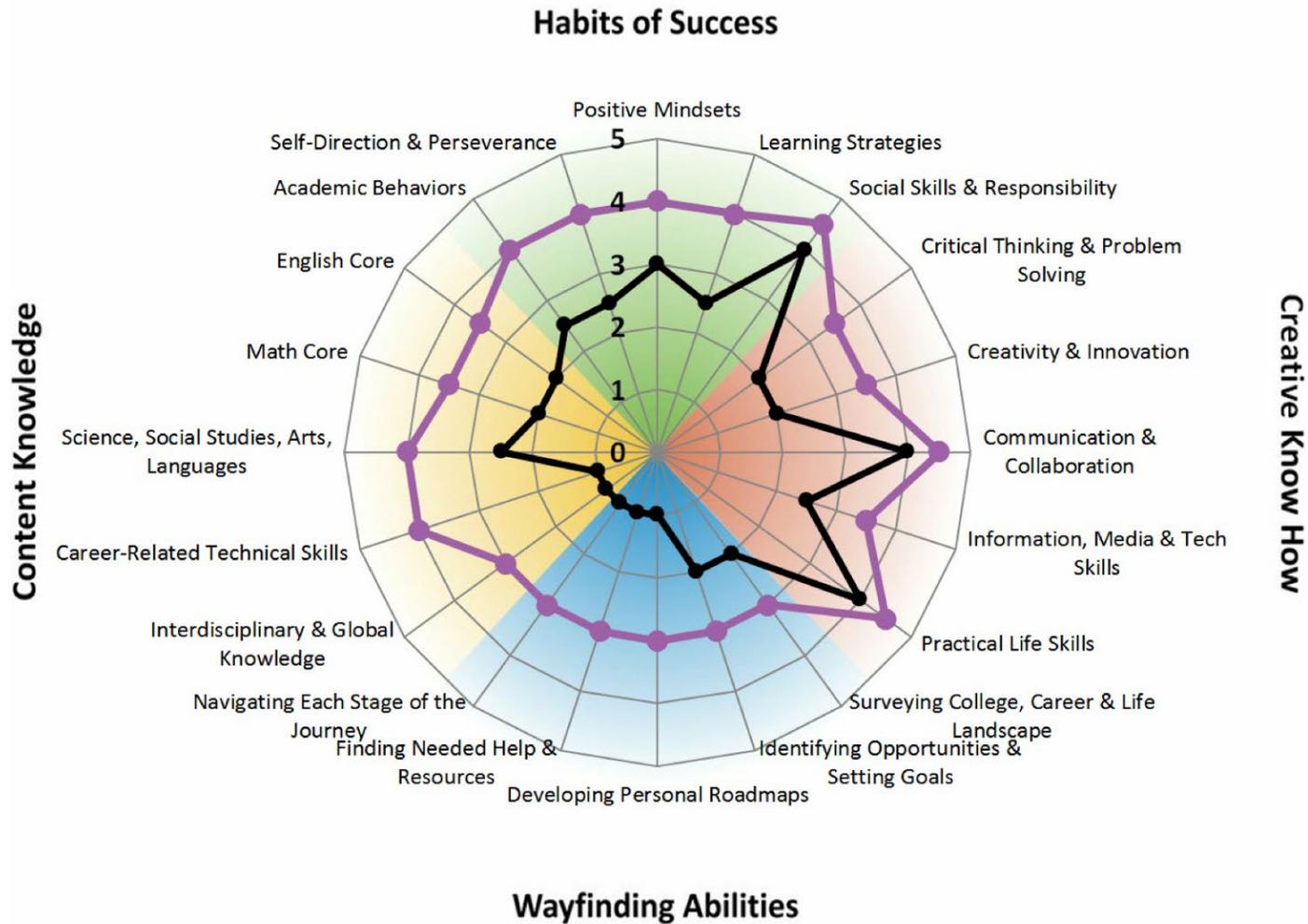
Red Line: _____

Date: _____



In this second plot (see screenshot below), we use the tool to show Tia's current level (in black) for all 20 MyWays competencies and her goals for graduation (in purple).

Tia's competency profile today (black) and goals at graduation (purple)



This plot gives great insight into where Tia needs more attention, and it helps Tia's teachers and parents establish learning activities that will cultivate her strengths, like Communication & Collaboration, and interests while exploring potential career pathways. Here are examples of these learning activities:

- Providing learning experiences in and out of school to maximize her strong Social Skills, Communication Ability, and Practical Life Skills;
- Declaring an "academic major" around her two great loves, young children and animals, using Content Knowledge platforms: Science, Social Studies, Arts, Languages and Career-Related Technical Skills;
- Translating the determination and hard work Tia has shown in overcoming her disability and her family's financial struggles, along with Social Skills and self-knowledge beyond her years, into more Positive Mindsets, Academic Behaviors, and Learning Strategies.

[Access Whole-Student Competency Plot](#)