



Design Thinking Philadelphia

Join a community of creative problem solvers and engage your students in inquiry-based learning with DT Philly!

Compete 360 is a nonprofit organization helping K-12 teachers and students use the design process to explore a challenge that interests them. Teachers in all grade levels and disciplines, and students of all abilities participate in DT Philly, which can be incorporated into class or run as an extracurricular activity.

Why might you join DT Philly? To provide a fun and authentic learning experience that supports students' development as critical thinkers; to help students understand their environment and their ability to change things around them; to provide context and structure for your problem- and project-based learning initiatives; to promote curiosity, creativity, collaboration, and critical thinking; to give students the tools, mindsets, and opportunity to take something from idea to implementation; to facilitate STEAM learning; or to achieve a goal or explore a complex problem that matters to you—in the same way design thinking is used outside of school to address the needs of individuals, organizations, businesses, and communities!

What You Do

- Attend required training workshops and pick up program materials (August-September)
- Introduce each step of the design process to students, helping them understand vocabulary, concepts, and techniques
- Guide students through weekly activities to build a design project (September to February)
- Submit—or have the students submit—each week's activity through your team page(s) on the Compete 360 website
- Check the weekly feedback Compete 360 shares with your team(s) and help the students advance their project(s)
- Communicate with Compete 360 whenever you need clarification, guidance, or assistance...or to share good news

What You Get

Resources

- Training workshop(s) to develop a foundational understanding of the design process and its application to problem solving
- Supplies for your team(s): markers notebooks, pencils, erasers, sticky notes, tabletop easel pad, paper, and more
- Fun optional activities to practice design skills or extend the learning—materials included in your activity kit
- Comprehensive facilitator's guide that provides step-by-step instructions and background material, discussion questions, examples, and templates to guide your design work
- Videos to introduce your students to each stage of their design work
- Ongoing program support
 - Weekly personalized feedback on project submissions
 - Weekly tips, shout-outs, and reminders
 - On-site assistance as needed
- Access to design professionals
- Community-shared learning—be inspired by your peers and the ways they are using design thinking to address a problem
- DT Philly t-shirts for all team members
- Rewards: high school and 6th-8th grade teams earn 3D puzzles and have pop-up opportunities to earn surprise rewards; K-2 and 3rd-5th grade teams earn design superhero cards and jigsaw puzzles

Special Events

DT Philly Showcase: Join design teams from participating schools to celebrate your work and present your project(s) to design and business professionals. The top three teams in the high school and 6th-8th grade divisions can earn grants to support their projects, and the student designers in these grades also award a "Designer's Choice" grant to a deserving team. Teams in the K-2 and 3rd-5th grade programs receive certificates and trophies.

Designers-in-Schools Week: Sign up for a classroom visit from a designer to learn about their work and career path, and to discuss your project(s).*

Prototyping Skills Week: Sign up to have Compete 360 visit your team and introduce students to rapid prototyping techniques using everyday materials.*

**For high school and 6th - 8th grade divisions*

Register or learn more at [compete360.org](https://www.compete360.org). Questions? Contact us at 267-886-8233 or info@compete360.org.