

STEM 7 & STEM 8 VOCABULARY REFERENCE SHEET

Engineering Vocabulary

Design process: a systematic problem-solving strategy used to develop many possible solutions to solve a problem.

Problem solving: the process of understanding a problem, making a plan, doing the plan, and then evaluating the plan.

Criteria: requirements or standards by which something will be judged

Constraint: a limitation or restriction

Design brief: a written plan that identifies a problem to be solved and its criteria and constraints

Model: a detailed visual, mathematical representation of an object or design

Prototype: a full-scale working model of a design

Problem statement: a written need or want that clearly and concisely identifies the problem at hand

Design statement: describes what an engineer should do to solve the problem without specifically stating how to solve the problem

Brainstorming: a technique that is used to generate ideas

Research: study of materials and sources in order to establish facts and find new conclusions

Sketch: a rough, handmade drawing that represents the main features of an object or scene