Reflecting on Deeper Learning Approaches and Outcomes

The purpose of this tool is to provide an opportunity to think about how deeper learning outcomes are addressed through various instructional approaches.

Many of the deeper learning approaches measure similar skills that reflect deeper learning outcomes.

- **Critical thinking and problem solving:** Students engage in a rigorous, extended process of asking questions, finding resources, and applying information. In many cases, students are expected to learn content more deeply as they work toward finding solutions.

- **Self-directed learning:** Students make decisions about the project, including how they work and what they create. They reflect on the effectiveness of their project activities and use feedback to improve their process and results.

- **An academic mindset:** Students with an academic mindset have a strong belief in themselves. They trust their own abilities and believe that hard work will pay off, so they persist to overcome obstacles. They also learn from and support each other. They see the relevance of their schoolwork to the real world and their own future success.

- **Work collaboratively:** When students enter the workforce, they are expected to work in teams and collaborate with colleagues as they learn more about their jobs and internship experiences.

- **Communicate effectively:** When making decisions on the job or in the classroom, students will have expanded opportunities to propose and defend their recommendations using knowledge gained from their classroom experiences.

Reflection Question

Now that you have read about the different deeper learning approaches, use the chart, Deeper Learning Approaches and Outcomes, to mark which approaches align with the different deeper learning outcomes. Reflect on the approaches you might consider bringing to your district, grade level, or department. Because there is no one way to implement approaches that lead to deeper learning, you might add other approaches or choose to investigate others instead of these.

Deeper Learning Approaches and Outcomes

Learning Approach	Outcomes				
	Critical Thinking and Problem Solving	Self-Directed Learning	An Academic Mindset	Work Collaboratively	Communicate Effectively
Inquiry-Based					
Personalized					
Blended					
Work-Based					
Project-Based					
Other					