

Process-Only AI: One-Page PBL Routine

Use AI for thinking, not final products. Grade the process you can see.

Audience: K-12 PBL teachers

Where it fits: Research & Planning (works for Critique/Revision too)

Core Rule

- **AI allowed:** planning, options, risk checks, test plans, critique.
- **AI banned:** final products submitted for grading (essays, slides, code).

What You Collect (every milestone)

1. **AI Log (max 2 exchanges):** prompt → reply (screenshots or copy-paste).
2. **Delta Note (60–100 words):** what changed in the plan and why.

Setup (≤15 minutes)

1. Post the core rule and the two required artifacts above.
2. Share the **Micro-Rubric (10 pts)** below.
3. Model one quick example (see bottom).
4. Swap product points → **process points** (no extra grading time).

Run Each Milestone (8–12 minutes in class)

1. **Prompt (2–3 min):** Ask AI for 3 options to reach the goal under your constraints.
2. **Probe (2–3 min):** Ask AI to stress-test your draft; list risks/gaps/fixes.
3. **Delta Note (3–4 min):** Record what you changed and why.
4. **Quick Check (1–2 min/team):** Teacher scans Log + Delta using the rubric.

The 3C Prompt Frame (students)

- **Context:** task, goal, audience.
- **Constraints:** time, tools, data, limits.
- **Criteria:** what “good” looks like.

Starters

- “Plan a 45-min work block to **[goal]** using **[tools/limits]**. Give 3 options; compare tradeoffs.”

- “Critique my plan: list 5 risks, missing data, or bad assumptions; suggest fixes.”

Micro-Rubric (10 pts)

- **Specificity (0–3):** Prompts include goal + constraints; replies are on-task.
- **Judgment (0–4):** Clear keep/reject choices with reasons tied to context.
- **Next Step (0–3):** Concrete, feasible action for the next block.

Pass/Flag: Missing AI Log or Delta Note = **no credit** for that milestone.

Student Card (copy/paste)

- Use AI to **improve your plan**, not to write your final work.
- Submit: (1) two AI exchanges (Prompt + Probe) (2) one **Delta Note** (60–100 words).
- No AI-written final text/slides/code in submissions.

Quick Metrics You Can Claim

- By week 2: ≥ **80%** of teams submit complete Logs + Delta Notes.
- Mid-project: written feedback time down **~30%** (thinking is visible).
- Fewer product-cheating incidents (clear voice/decision trail).

Example (7th-grade science)

- **Prompt:** “Plan a 40-min water-quality test with pH strips + turbidity tube. Give 3 options; note time + data quality.”
- **Probe:** “Stress-test option 2. What’s weak? What should we calibrate or pilot first?”
- **Delta Note:** “Kept option 2; added 5-min calibration after AI flagged tube alignment. Dropped nitrate test—no strips. Next: assign roles for a 3-person team.”

Tip: Hard-cap AI to **two exchanges** per milestone to keep it fast and focused.