

2026 World Solutions Challenge

DO YOU LOVE A CHALLENGE?



Stretch your brain and use your creativity to get ready for the future

Our flexible World Solutions Challenge does not require any prior Future Problem Solving experience or affiliation. You get a 4-week window to analyze a specific current real world issue and use our 6-step problem-solving process to develop an action plan. Complete and submit your work at any point during the challenge time frame.



Two divisions: Junior and Middle

Students **new** to Future Problem Solving in U.S. equivalent grades 5 to 6 (ages 10-12) compete in our junior division and grades 7 to 8 (ages 12-14) compete in our middle division with peers from all around the world.



Teams of 2 to 4 students

You may work in groups of 2 to 4 students. All teams compete together, no matter the number of students working on an action plan submission. The entry fee is \$100 per team.

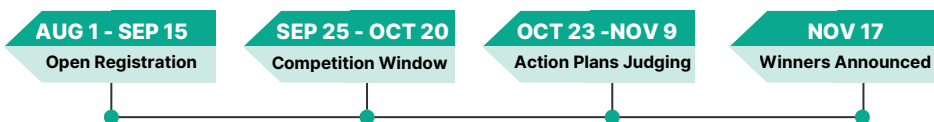
Your team needs an adult to serve as your primary contact for registration and communications with Future Problem Solving. Adults are also welcome to serve as coaches, but this is not required. The challenge includes all instructional materials needed for your success.



4-week competition window

You will use FPSONline, our interactive, collaborative platform during the open 4-week period. All event activities are available for you to learn and work when you like, anywhere you can access the internet via at least one computer. Some teams complete everything "at once" in a single (long) session, while other teams prefer to meet for two or more sessions during the window to tackle the problem a little at a time.

2026 COMPETITION CHALLENGE AT A GLANCE



Open Registration will close early if capacity is reached prior to September 15.

Login credentials to FPSONline will be distributed on September 23.



Reserve your spot today

THE CHALLENGE TOPIC Invasive Species

How will we safeguard the biodiversity of our ecosystems against the rising threat of invasive species in the future?



Invasive species are non-native organisms that, when introduced to a new environment, can cause harm to native ecosystems, biodiversity, and even economic activities. Due to a lack of natural competitors or predators, these species often outcompete or prey upon native plants and animals, disrupting the delicate balance of local ecosystems. Invasive species can be plants, animals, or microorganisms, and they are typically introduced through human activities, such as trade, travel, or deliberate release.

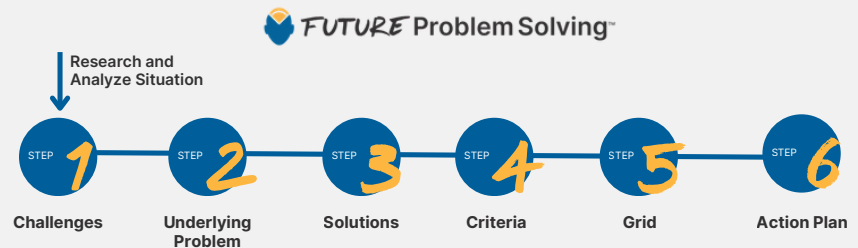
The World Solutions Challenge Experience

HOW IT WORKS

Our World Solutions Challenge makes learning problem solving fun. It's a chance for you to compete with your ideas and learn how to change the world, one problem at a time. Teams get a 4-week window to analyze a specific current real world issue, apply our 6-step problem-solving approach, and develop an action plan. This challenge is an introductory experience to our signature Global Issues program for students who have not yet participated in a Global Issues competition.

Our 6-step problem-solving approach

The Future Problem Solving model is easy to apply for any situation. Learn to thoroughly research and analyze real world issues and then apply a 6-step creative problem-solving process to develop relevant action plans.



Our FPSOnline challenge toolkit

Our challenge toolkit guides you through the problem-solving process and your action plan submission. The event materials include a challenge outline, suggested timeline, a topic introduction, and helpful learning resources and videos. The \$100 team registration fee covers all your needs for access to the online 6-step problem-solving approach as well as evaluation and feedback on your action plan submission.

2025 SPOTLIGHT

In the 2025 World Solutions Challenge, over 200 students submitted action plans solving a core problem related to the global challenge of Rising Sea Levels. The competition included students from Australia, Canada, China, Colombia, New Zealand, Singapore, Türkiye, and the U.S.

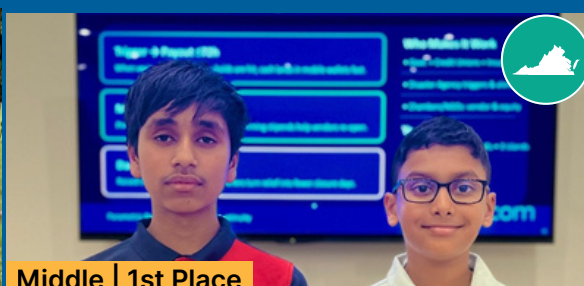


Junior | 1st Place

The Coastal Green Shield Initiative

Alexandra, Maya, Simone
Robert E. Willett Elementary

The team's winning action plan combats the effects of rising sea levels by planting salt-tolerant vegetation in coastal communities.



Middle | 1st Place

Parametric Payouts for Livelihood Continuity

Arjun, Sai
Gum Spring Middle School

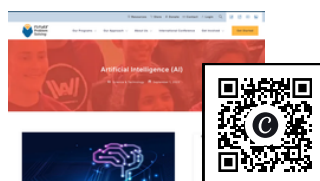
Our top middle team identified ways to reduce flood-driven income and asset losses so that local livelihoods remain stable during coastal floods.



Challenges Program



Topic Center



Resources Library



Contact Us

