

CHALLENGE YOUR STUDENTS



Students compete with their ideas to create an action plan for real world issues

Our flexible World Solutions Challenge does not require any prior Future Problem Solving experience or affiliation. Students 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. All activities are asynchronous so these bite-sized challenges may be completed 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 students in grades 7 to 8 (ages 12-14) compete in our middle division with their peers from all around the world.



Teams of 2 to 4 students

Students 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.

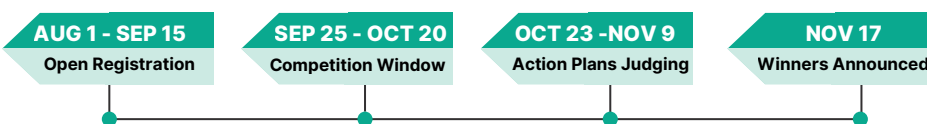
Every team needs an adult to serve as their primary contact for registration and communications with Future Problem Solving. Adults are also welcome to serve as coaches, but this is not required. The challenge includes all instructional materials for student success.



4-week competition window

All activities are accessible via FPSOnline, our interactive, collaboration platform, during the open 4-week competition period. Students may meet when and where they like, even virtually, as long as they can access the internet. 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.

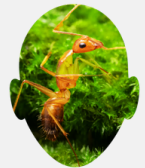
Login credentials to FPSOnline will be distributed on September 23.



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.

Our problem solvers learn how to think, not what to think, and gain lifelong skills

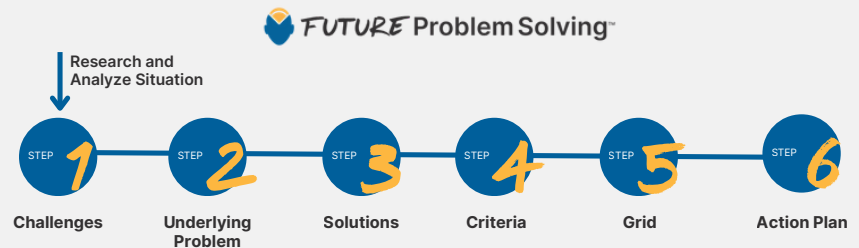
The World Solutions Challenge Experience

HOW IT WORKS

Our World Solutions Challenge makes learning problem solving fun. It's a chance for students to learn how to change the world, one problem at a time. Students 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 competed in Global Issues.

Our 6-step problem-solving approach

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



Our FPSOnline challenge toolkit

Our challenge toolkit guides students through the problem-solving process and their 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 student needs for access to the online 6-step problem-solving process as well as evaluation and feedback on their 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

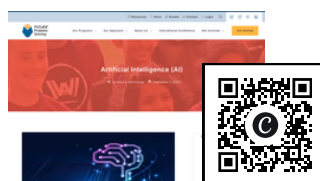
Our top middle team identified ways to reduce flood-driven income and asset losses so that local livelihoods remain stable during coastal floods.



Challenges Program



Topic Center



Resources Library



Contact Us

