

Advice from previous Students who Transitioned to PBL Class (actual advice from their own mouths)

At the end of the previous year, we asked students to write down advice to students taking this class for the first time:

1. Keep your binder organized
2. Do a lot of work at the board
3. Ask for help when you need it - not just from the teacher, from other students.
4. see the bigger picture, don't focus on details
5. draw everything
6. ask yourself what you're really solving for, so you don't get caught up solving for something irrelevant
7. Be patient and trust the method
8. Don't be afraid to ask questions; don't be afraid to be wrong
9. Write down everything you can relate to the question if you don't understand because this helped me a lot. Like I might get it during the process of writing the things I know how to do (*with regard to doing HW*)
10. Make good journals!
11. Have a positive attitude in class
12. Pay attention in class!
13. Take lots of good notes and pay attention during class, even when you don't understand, be sure to ask lots of questions.
14. concentrate on the problem-solving methods that work best for you personally
15. Don't give up!/Stick with it/Give it time/It gets easier/Don't get discouraged
16. Let your comments be heard, it just might help solve the problem

17. Don't be afraid to take risks and try new ideas, try not to care about what others would think
18. Always do your homework/Always attempt problems/Put effort into HW, that's how you get better at problem solving.
19. You will get out of it what you put into it.
20. Don't say "I hate this class" right away, adjust first
21. If you don't understand a question, reread it! Finish reading a problem and answer all of them!! Know what you are supposed to answer before start writing.
22. Keep every homework problem that helped you learn a topic and/or keep a good detailed journal entry on it.
23. Don't write things off the board if you don't understand it, it is useless.
24. I'd tell them that they do NOT need to be right. It's all right and totally normal to show problems you got wrong so everyone knows not to make that mistake.
25. Don't get stressed trying to get the answer for homework every night/Worry more about the process
26. This course is intended for class discussion and analysis. The only way to learn is by speaking up and getting your ideas out there. By doing so your ideas can be thought over and discussed. Do not be afraid to express yourself.
27. Use your journal entries wisely. They will help later even though they are an annoyance at first.
28. Pay attention to your peers
29. Be as involved as possible in class.
30. GIVE IT TIME! It took all of first semester for me to adjust to it. Now my grades are great, my problem solving skills have grown, and my confidence in math has grown tremendously ☺
31. To try problems and present them even if the answer is wrong because that is the best way to learn.
32. Be prepared to work hard!