



Global Problem Solvers: The Series – Season 2, The Storm

Episode 2.6 – Test and Retest Teaching Companion

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Episode Summary

The Global Problem Solvers now must test their emergency classroom kit with a class. They set up the kit outside for a group of students. For a short time, the portable classroom appears to be a success, but the team has overlooked two critical pieces of information. First, Tampa is rebuilding after the hurricane, so there's a lot of noise in the streets. Second, a city with rainy weather is not an ideal place to hold class outdoors. Fortunately, the team is able to find a solution to these problems by once again paying attention to the community they are trying to help. Empty shipping containers outside shelters provide protection from the weather, block outside noise, and have enough space for a class to meet. Testing and retesting has made a good solution even better.

Worksheet

Another important way to perfect your business plan is to integrate honest feedback on what could go wrong with your solution and how you would overcome those problems. A popular way of doing this is through what is called a SWOT assessment:

S is for Strengths of the solution.

W is for Weaknesses of the solution.

O is for Opportunities. What circumstances in the outside world will help sales of the solution?

T is for Threats. What circumstances in the outside world will hurt sales of the solution?

It's never too late to make a SWOT assessment. It's a good way to make sure your business continues to be healthy.

1. What would you say are the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats for the Global Problem Solvers' emergency classroom kit?

Strengths:

Weaknesses:

Opportunities:

Threats:

2. Choose an item of technology that you use every day, such as a smartphone, a favorite app, a car or television set, and make a SWOT analysis. Are there ways it could be improved to be more useful?

Technology:

Strengths:

Weaknesses:

Opportunities:

Threats: