Polya's Technique

Problem Solving Framework Steps

1. Understand the Problem

2. Devise a Plan

3. Carry Out the Plan

4. Look Back

STEP ONE: Understand the Problem

— Identify Inputs and Outputs

— Ask "What if" Questions

STEP TWO: Devise a Plan

— Come up with more than one plan

— Choose a solution based on:

    — Your Ability

    — Code's Performance

    — Code Maintainability / Readability

STEP THREE: Carry Out the Plan

— Quickly dispense with boilerplate code

— Write code 'outside in' ("sandwich code")

STEP FOUR: Look Back

— Ensure the correctness of your solution (and keep working until it's correct)

— Once it's correct, decide where you want to go:

  — You could refactor https://github.com/gSchool/javascript-curriculum/blob/master/Refactoring.md

  — You could burn-and-build (delete and rewrite)

  — You could write a real test suite