**Essential Skill for the Unit of Study – Worksheet**

Team\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Complete this form prior to starting the unit that has an essential skill in it**.**

**Purpose:** To determine as a collaborative team what is essential for students to know and be able to do, what is nice to know, and what to omit.

**Guiding Questions:**

1. **Does the essential have endurance?** Do we really expect our student to retain the knowledge and skills over time as opposed to merely learning it for a test?
2. **Does it have leverage?** Will proficiency in this standard help the student in other areas of the curriculum and other academic disciplines?
3. **Does it develop student readiness for the next level of learning?** Is it essential for success in the next unit, course, or grade level? *(Learning By Doing,* 2010)

Resources to help in making decisions:

* Standards
* District curriculum
* Former lesson plans (what was taught vs. intended)
* Unit books
* Standardized test samples
* Item Analysis
* A list of prerequisite skills that colleagues at the next course or grade level have established as essential for success at that level

Use another sheet if necessary

Nice to know:

Omit:

Essential to know in this unit: (think: not more than 10 essentials per year)

*Circle 1: What do we want students to know and be able to do?*