

THE INQUIRY PROCESS



ENGAGE and ASK

How will I engage my students in the topic and prompt them to ask questions?

- Determine the enduring understandings about the topic being studied.
- Engage your students with the topic by grabbing their interest with a hook connected to the enduring understandings.
- Use the hook (phenomena in science) to inspire students to generate questions OR define a problem for which they can design a solution.
- Determine what questions will be essential to achieving the enduring understandings (student generated or teacher determined).
- With students, determine what other information is needed in order to fully answer the questions.

THINK CRITICALLY

How will students access and analyze information about this topic?



- Have students think about where they can find answers to the questions posed about the topic.
- Gather and organize multiple primary and secondary sources.
- Ensure that sources used expose students to different perspectives and viewpoints about the topic.
- Students should collect, analyze, and interpret data from sources or investigations.
- Encourage students to collect evidence in order to answer their questions and deepen their understanding.
- Ensure students are analyzing sources or investigations for credibility, reliability, bias, and perspective in order to identify gaps in the research.
- Ensure students drive the learning—do not simply provide answers for them.

ENGAGE & ASK

THINK CRITICALLY

Inquiry

COMMUNICATE FINDINGS

DRAW CONCLUSIONS

COMMUNICATE FINDINGS

How will students demonstrate what they have learned? Who is the audience for communicating student learning?

- Determine how students will apply what they have learned and share their findings with others.
- Explore appropriate audiences for students to present conclusions or solutions.
- Determine if there is an opportunity for students to take action and influence others to make more informed decisions.
- Have students develop strategies to persuade others, including policy makers when applicable.
- Prepare students to defend their analysis against alternative interpretations.



DRAW CONCLUSIONS

How will students synthesize ideas to answer the questions posed based on sources used?

- Engage students in evaluating possible courses of action or solutions and their consequences.
- Have students design solutions to solve the problem identified.
- Students should engage in civil discourse, citing evidence (from research or investigations) to support their conclusions, to answer the questions posed while respecting diverse opinions.
- Students should make and justify an informed decision or choice and/or design an action plan supported by evidence from sources or investigations.
- Allow students to make revisions based on feedback and further study.



REFLECT

How will students reflect on what they have learned and how will their new knowledge impact their thinking in the future?

