

THE INQUIRY PROCESS



ENGAGE and ASK

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

- Select a topic to study that addresses the learning standards and has enduring understandings.
- Engage students with the topic by grabbing their interest with a hook (phenomena in science) that inspires students to generate questions OR define a problem for which they can design a solution.
- With students, sort and prioritize questions or solvable problems generated.
- Use sorted questions to determine essential and supporting questions to guide study of the topic.

THINK CRITICALLY

How will students access and analyze information about this topic?



- Have students think about where they can find answers to the questions they have about the topic.
- Gather information from multiple sources and discuss differences between primary and secondary sources.
- Allow students to explore and discuss both reliable and unreliable sources.
- Compel students to analyze and interpret the data or research.
- Encourage students to collect evidence in order to answer their questions and deepen their understanding.
- Ensure students drive the learning—do not simply provide answers for them.



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.



DRAW CONCLUSIONS

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

- Encourage students to engage in discourse with peers, citing evidence (from research or investigation) to support their conclusions.
- Verify that students construct explanations to answer questions based on information discovered from multiple reliable sources and/or investigations.
- Have students design solutions to solve the problem identified.
- Discuss new questions students have based on information learned.



REFLECT

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

