

Inquiry: What's it all about???

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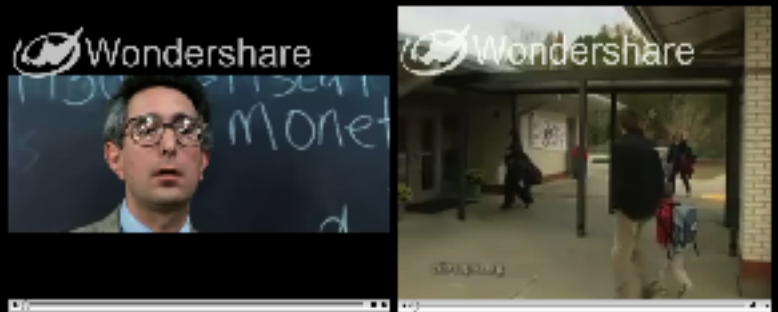
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"Children are not glasses waiting to be filled, they are fires waiting to be ignited."
--Bruce Marlow



Where would you rather be?



In which classroom would you rather be?



Traditional Classroom

- Students receive knowledge
- Teacher "saves" material
- Students are often learning as the teacher talks or presents
- Students memorize, imitate and repeat information
- Students are often passive learners
- Over-emphasis on the end product



Constructivist Classroom

- Students construct knowledge, teacher acts as facilitator
- Students "discover" material
- Students are discussing, questioning critically, engaged in investigations or projects
- Students think, analyze, apply and understand
- Students are active learners
- Emphasis on the process



Establishing an Environment that Supports Inquiry

Inquiry based learning requires an environment that supports:

- Asking Questions
- Valued Mistakes
- Communication
- How Do We Find Out? Approach
- Ask, Don't Tell
- Risk Taking
- Being Non-Judgemental
- Many Possible Answers
- Open-Ended Questions
- Time to Explore/Observe



The Inquiry Process



Posing Real Questions

1
Pose Real Questions

- *What is a question?
- *Wonderings, Curiosities
 - *Open wonderings
 - *Curriculum related wonderings
- *Focusing Questions
 - *Connecting to your curriculum
- *Pose a problem scenario
 - *No question returned
- *Are you really done?
 - *Student question exchange

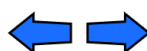


2

Finding Relevant Sources

Find Resources

- * Big Problem
 - *Big 6
 - *Traditional sources & Non-traditional sources
 - *Evaluating the information
 - *Citing their sources
- [Media Center Page](#)



3

Interpreting Information

Interpret Information

- *Relevancy to original intent
- *Confirm by comparing to other sources and what you know
- *Quantity doesn't trump quality!
- *More questions?



4

Report Findings

Report Findings

- *Importance of reporting findings
- *Authentic purpose...a real audience
- *Not just product, but, PROCESS
- *Synthesize, not just find...USE!
- *What can I create?



The Inquiry Process



Inquiry or NOT Inquiry...You Be the Judge!

Investigate friction and hypothesize what would happen if friction did not exist. Synthesize your information in to a multimedia project.

Define and describe landforms by viewing the Enchanted Learning landform dictionary. Draw a picture of each landform and write the definition.

Use KidPix or Pixie to draw the life cycle of a butterfly.

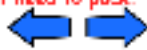
The student council organization in your school is having disagreements about how it should be organized. Based on U.S. branches of government, devise a new system for student council.

Complete a moon phase calendar by cutting out photographs of the moon in different phases, and mounting them on a monthly calendar.

Design a habitat for a frog who has been displaced from his home at the zoo.

Go to the library and research explorers. Summarize your findings in a one page report.

Your family is taking a trip to Hawaii for spring break. Use prior knowledge and new research to determine what you'll need to pack.



Getting Started with Inquiry

The Inquiry Continuum



Open Inquiry
Guided Inquiry
Structured Inquiry

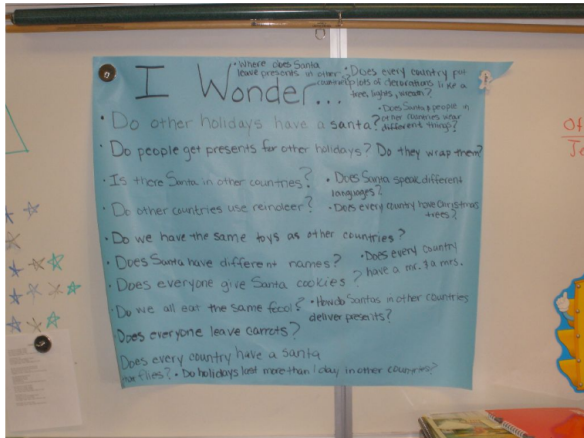


All inquiry is not created equal

"Like a 10-speed bike, most of us have gears we do not use." -- Charles Schulz



Wonder Wall



Inquiry Journal

What surprises/fascinates me...

What seems important here is...

This reminds me of...

I wonder...

This relates to my own experiences...

I want to know more about...

This relates or is connected to...

The important ideas/conclusions here are...



Mystery Box Activity



Observe, Think, Question

Observe Objectively



What do you notice specifically? Make close observations, not inferences.

Think Reflectively



Relate what you observe to what you know.

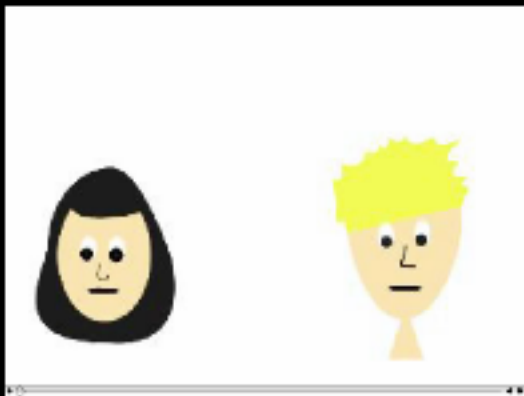
Question Frequently



What curiosities arise from your investigations?



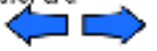
The Question Game



K	W	H	L	A	Q

Focus on prior knowledge and defining purpose for reading

Focus on transfer and application



Collecting & Citing

Topic	Question 1 Why was Rosa Parks famous?	Question 2 How did Rosa Parks affect your life?	Question 3 What was Rosa Parks young life like?	New Questions Why so brave?
What do I already know?				
Source 1				
Source 2				
Source 3				
Summary				



Science Inquiry GLCEs



S.IP.E.1 Inquiry involves generating questions, conducting investigations, and developing solutions to problems through reasoning and observation.

S.IA.E.1 Inquiry includes an analysis and presentation of findings that lead to future questions, research, and investigations.



Resources



LCPS PBL

Recipes4Success

Thinkfinity

