

Sustaining Inquiry

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Sustained Inquiry - What is it?

Is...	Is not...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● genuine investigation● throughout the unit of study● purposeful● flexibility in learning● constantly revisited - continuous● across all curriculum areas● driven by students' interests● collaborative learning● perseverance● teaching talk moves, such as agree and disagree respectfully● technology can support● sequencing questions● developing further exploration/ justify /rate● a movement through a learning process	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● not just a summative task● not a set method or remedy/ formula● limited● predictable or tidy● “simply” a student’s opinion● a “free for all”

****Ideas in green = add-ons from May**

What does a culture of sustained inquiry...

LOOK LIKE?

- raised hands
- attentive listening and participation in discussions
- pointing to examples
- adding notes, editing, re-reading

- thoughtbooks*
- wonder wall, centers*
- contract or class norms posted*
- sentence starters*
- inquiry questions (linked to big idea) clearly posted*

SOUND LIKE?

- prompting further discussion
- asking questions
- challenging ideas
- respectful disagreements
- encouragement

- Qu'en penses-tu?*
- J'aimerais clarifier/ajouter à ce que tu as dit...*
- Ceci m'intéresse car...*
- Tu as raison, mais...*
- Je me demande...*

FEEL LIKE?

- safe
- curious
- accepting
- challenging
- inspiring
- shared
- validating
- encouraging

Pedagogical steps towards sustained inquiry

1. Explicit teaching around:

- The different kinds of questioning (types, depth, purpose) and the verification of those questions
- Difference between share and discuss for expectations of student responses
- Inquiry vocabulary (Judgement vs. Compliment vs. Observation vs. Instruction vs. Question)
- Purposeful listening in order to *paraphrase, evaluate, understand, question*, etc.
- Reflection of the thinking process (Wonderbook, Thoughtbook, Wonder Wall)
- Sentence starters in conversation:
 - ❖ *I would like to add to _____ idea...*
 - ❖ *I would like to clarify what _____ said...*
 - ❖ *I don't agree with _____ because...*

2. Some Making Thinking Visible strategies

3. Pedagogical documentation

- valuable way to uncover student thinking abilities and where they are in the process.

Reflection

After one year of messing with sustained inquiry, we have learned:

- it links into everything else that we've done and gives us the framework needed for planning
- there is a need to balance between structured sharing and promoting spontaneous conversations or discussions to further the exploration of the goal
- Sustained Inquiry is a cultural shift in the classroom that promotes student responsibility and accountability for learning
- Inquiry promotes a better learning environment from a mental health perspective

Now it's YOUR turn!