

Inquiring Minds — a protocol for initiating inquiry

Premise: Good questions generate powerful learning.

Protocol

1. Create a question focus
 - Not a focus question
 - Provocative, but without formulator bias
2. Produce questions.
In groups of 3 or 4...
 - Produce as many questions as you can — without discussion, judgments, or offering answers.
 - Record the questions accurately. Number the questions.
3. Analyze the questions.
In the same groups...
 - Categorize the questions by whether they are “closed” (one-word answers) or “open” (more than one-word answers).
 - Change one “closed” question to “open” and one “open” one to “closed.”
4. Strategize how to use the questions.
In the same groups...
 - Determine which three questions in your list are most important.
 - Consider how you will/could follow up on these questions — the investigations or actions you might pursue as individuals or as a group.
5. Reflect on the process.
In the same groups...
 - What did you find interesting or useful about the process?
 - What challenges did you encounter?
 - What did you learn?
 - How might you use this process?

The Right Question Institute (RQI): rightquestion.org

“What is one essential skill that can facilitate all learning?
What can we do in order to learn more, produce new
ideas and generate creative solutions?
We should ask questions.”

Five Primary Initiatives

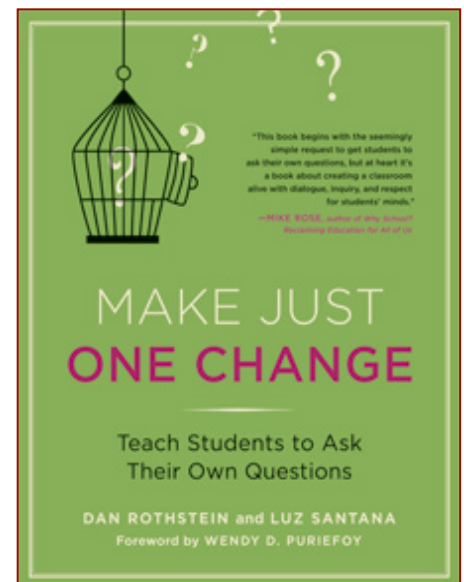
- * Education
 - * Healthcare & Mental Health
 - * Parent & Family Involvement
 - * Voter Engagement
 - * Microdemocracy

Stages of Inquiry

- * Connect
- * Wonder
- * Investigate
- * Construct
- * Express
- * Reflect

Source:

Model of Inquiry,
Barbara Stripling
<http://goo.gl/wgBxn>



A presentation about this protocol is
available at <http://goo.gl/sbhyg>.