Developing an Inquiry Question

An idea for project generation: what Big Idea do you want to cover, what is going on in the community that ties to your Big Idea. What type of question could we make that allows for exploration, skills and critical thinking?

HINT: You want the question to engage students in learning a concept deeper and thinking critically, it should not be a yes or no question.

Developing a driving question- within your question make sure there is there a problem and a key word.

How can we, as (role), \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (do a task/ create a product) for/to/that \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (purpose and audience)?

Here is an example:

* A common question would be, “How do I build a bird house?” Alter to= “How do I become a craftsman and build quality wood products like a bird house?”

Additional ideas: You can put constraints on this question. For example, the house design needs to match neighbourhood house themes and needs to be for birds within the environment. This forces more critical thinking as students will have to face reality. Students can come up with these themselves.

More examples:

* **Starting question**, “How can we make a menu using local foods”

**Alter to=**

“How can we, as chefs, plan, prepare and serve an appealing menu that is made with local products?”

* **Starting question**, “Is global warming affecting the health of the ecosystems of the world?”

**Alter to=**

“How can we find and use reliable data to predict the effects of climate change on the coastlines of BC?”

**Question Stems:**

How could you change….

How can we as…

How do I/we improve....

How could you change….

How does XXXX compare with XXXX …

You may also start your question with,

What….

Why….

If….