

Lesson Blueprints: Discussions and Questions

Lesson Title: Question Slips

Grade Level: Elementary School

Project and Purpose

Students create question slips to use in discussion on a topic.

Essential Question

How does creating questions help the group learn?

Materials

- Strips of paper (depending on how formal you want this exercise to go, strips can be pre-printed forms, cut shapes, or torn paper)
- Paper and writing implements
- Question Box or Question Container

Procedure

1. Select a topic for the discussion.
2. Review question stems, types of questions, and how to create higher order questions. **(Note:** A Question Stem worksheet is provided in Lesson Blueprints.)
3. Have students write several questions on the topic, encouraging them to build higher order thinking questions. Encourage students to help each other form deeper thinking questions and then “clear” their questions through you.
4. Ask students to select what they consider to be their best question write it neatly and legibly on a paper slip. All questions will be anonymous, so they do not need to write their names on the slips.
5. Collect the questions in a box or other container.
6. Pull a question from the container to begin a group discussion or small group discussions. Continue this process during the class period or over a series of days.

Conclusion

Ask students to write a journal response to one of their fellow students’ questions.

Notes
