

2nd-8th Grade Visible Thinking Routines Social Studies

Read one or two books on MyOn from the list provided and complete one of the four Visible Thinking Routines.

1. The 3 Ys

1. Why might this [topic, question] matter to me?
2. Why might it matter to people around me [family, friends, city, nation]?
3. Why might it matter to the world?

2. CIRCLE OF VIEWPOINTS ROUTINE

A routine for exploring diverse perspectives

Brainstorm a list of different perspectives and then use this script skeleton to explore each one:

1. I AM THINKING OF ...the topic ... FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF...the viewpoint you've chosen
2. I THINK...describe the topic from your viewpoint. Be an actor--take on the character of your viewpoint
3. A QUESTION I HAVE FROM THIS VIEWPOINT IS...ask a question from this viewpoint

WRAPUP: What new ideas do you have about the topic that you didn't have before? What new questions do you have?

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3. Headlines Routine

A routine for capturing essence

This routine draws on the idea of newspaper-type headlines as a vehicle for summing up and capturing the essence of an event, idea, concept, topic, etc. The routine asks one core question:

1. If you were to write a headline for this topic that captured its most important and memorable aspect, what would that headline be?

A second question probes how students' ideas, of what is most important and central to the topic, have changed over time:

2. How has your headline changed based on today's discussion? How does it differ from what you would have said yesterday?

4. Circles of Action

Fostering a disposition To Participate

What can I do to contribute...

1. In my inner circle (of friends, family, the people I know)?
2. In my community (my school, my neighborhood)?
3. In the world (beyond my immediate environment)