

HAND OUT

Lesson 16. Questioning and Speculating

Today, you will be writing about your book in connection to your personal inquiry question(s). Think about it: How does your literature circle book guide your thinking about bigger inquiry questions and culture?

Activity 1: Review the Questioning and Speculating Guide From Youth Voices

- In this guide (<http://youthvoices.net/node/36247>), you are prompted to free write about your book and ask questions based on a close reading of passages and various story lines in your text. Additionally, using quotes from your book can help explain your thinking.
- This guide offers ways to approach this writing, but you may extend beyond the guide in your writing. Think carefully about how your novel of study inspires your questioning and inquiry.

Activity 2: Questioning and Speculating Blog Post

- Brainstorm: How does your literature circle book guide your thinking about bigger inquiry questions and culture?
- Compose your blog post. Remember to include your book and inquiry questions.
- Post your discussion blog on Youth Voices. Don't forget to add an image to your post as this is digital writing and a requirement for posts on Youth Voices.

Activity 3: Respond to Your Peers

Read other blog discussion posts from our class—you might even find posts from other schools!—and respond to your peers. For a few ideas on how to respond to posts, check out the Youth Voices guide at <http://youthvoices.net/node/23265>. Use the following considerations for responding to peers:

- Address the author by name.
- Be specific in your response. Reference an idea or line from the author's text to celebrate, question, or wonder about.
- Offer constructive responses related to big ideas in the post and raise questions to spark further exploration.
- Keep in mind that this response is designed to share ideas and develop thinking and questioning related to each person's inquiry question.

Activity 4: Narrow Inquiry Questions

After writing and responding to others, explore comments that you received. You might find it appropriate to respond to your responses. In most cases, it is common and expected that you respond to the responses you receive.

Think about your own inquiry questions and start to narrow your focus to one topic or question. Explore resources related to this topic. In this way, you are working on idea generating, gathering resources, and narrowing your inquiry.

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