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Resources and Downloads to Facilitate Inquiry-Based Learning

Find information, strategies, protocols, and tools to promote curiosity and engage students in asking questions, thinking critically, and solving problems.

ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED: JANUARY 7, 2016 | UPDATED: AUGUST 12, 2016

Resources by Topic:

Discover the Benefits of Inquiry-Based Learning

- A Case for Curiosity (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/a-case-for-curiosity-ainissa-ramirez) : Hear from one educator on the value of asking "why?" and learn how to preserve and nurture a curious mindset. (Edutopia, 2016)
- 3 Rules to Spark Learning (http://www.ted.com/talks/ramsey_musallam_3_rules_to_spark_learning) : Watch a short video to understand how student questions seed real learning. (TED Talks, 2013)
- Why Curiosity Enhances Learning (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/why-curiosity-enhances-learning-marianne-stenger) : Read about findings of a neurological study on curiosity. (Edutopia, 2014)
- Designing Learning That Matters (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/designing-learning-that-matters-joshua-block) : Learn about the benefits of inquiry-driven, deep-learning experiences. (Edutopia, 2015)
- The Research Behind Choice and Inquiry-Based Education (http://ajjuliani.com/research/) : Explore a collection of research and success stories. (A.J. Juliani)
- Excerpt From *Teaching for Meaningful Learning* (http://www.edutopia.org/pdfs/edutopia-teaching-for-meaningful-learning.pdf) : Check out a book excerpt to review existing research. (Edutopia, 2008)

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Create Learning Environments That Foster Inquiry

- How to Bring 'More Beautiful' Questions Back to School (http://ww2.kqed.org/mindshift/2016/02/09/how-to-bring-more-beautiful-questions-back-to-school/) : Take a look at five ways to create learning environments that value questions. (KQED's MindShift, 2016)
- Creating a Culture of Inquiry (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/creating-a-culture-of-inquiry-andrew-miller) : Understand how to honor inquiry within assignments and assessments. (Edutopia, 2015)
- Preparing a Classroom Culture for Deeper Learning (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/preparing-classroom-culture-deeper-learning-elizabeth-garcia) : Examine five cultural transitions to initiate. (Edutopia, 2015)
- Ten Tips for Launching an Inquiry-Based Classroom (http://ww2.kqed.org/mindshift/2015/09/21/10-tips-for-launching-an-inquiry-based-classroom/) : Dive in and try a few of these tips yourself. (KQED's MindShift, 2015)

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Plan Curriculum That Supports Inquiry

- Inquiry-Based Learning: An Approach to Educating and Inspiring Kids (http://youthlearn.org/resources/inquiry-based-learning/) : Scan an in-depth inquiry-based learning guide for information on techniques and strategies for doing inquiry-based projects in any educational setting. (YouthLearn, 2016)
- Quality Instruction + Differentiation (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/differentiated-instruction-quality-beyond-checklist-john-mccarthy) : Find out how to help students relate work to overarching questions. (Edutopia, 2015)
- Four Phases of Inquiry-Based Learning (http://www.teachthought.com/pedagogy/4-phases-inquiry-based-learning-guide-teachers/) : See how to break out inquiry-based learning into four distinct stages. (TeachThought)
- Teaching Through Inquiry (http://www.ascd.org/ascd-express/vol8/821-marshall.aspx) : Learn about "engage, explore, explain, and extend" as an instructional framework. (ASCD, 2013)
- Inquiry-Based Learning in a Literacy & Social Studies Classroom (https://www.teachingchannel.org/blog/ausl/2013/08/07/student-historians-inquiry-based-learning-in-a-literacy-and-social-studies-classroom/) : Take five steps to launch a journey of historical inquiry. (Teaching Channel, 2013)

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Use Strategies to Increase Inquiry in the Classroom

- Curiosity: The Force Within a Hungry Mind (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/8-pathways-curiosity-hungry-mind-marilyn-price-mitchell) : Explore ten ways to encourage students to be curious. (Edutopia, 2015)
- Fostering Student Questions (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/strategies-for-inquiry-based-learning-john-mccarthy) : Read about four protocols that can help scaffold student questions. (Edutopia, 2015)
- The Power of Asking the Right Questions (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/inquiry-based-learning-asking-right-questions-georgia-mathis) : Understand when and how much to help students refocus questions. (Edutopia, 2015)
- Encouraging the Einstein and Edison in Everyone (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/encouraging-einstein-edison-in-everyone-ainissa-ramirez) : Discover how to teach creativity. (Edutopia, 2015)
- Learning to Work and Think Like an Artist (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/learning-work-think-like-artist-carol-morgan) : Find steps to develop artistic thinking. (Edutopia, 2015)

- Avoiding Learned Helplessness (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/avoiding-learned-helplessness-andrew-miller) : See how to stop giving answers and instead ask more questions. (Edutopia, 2015)

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Conduct Activities That Promote Inquiry

- Query Books (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/personalized-learning-and-query-books-cathy-knutson) : Ask students to chronicle their ideas, ponderings, and questions. (Edutopia, 2014)
- Hackathons (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/hackathons-as-a-new-pedagogy-brandon-zoras) : Check out a hackathon playbook to plan activities that provide experiences with overcoming failure. (Edutopia, 2015)
- 20% Time (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/20-percent-time-a-j-juliani) : Try out Genius Hour (a.k.a. 20% Time). Explore more resources in the Genius Hour Wiki (http://geniushour.wikispaces.com/) . (Edutopia, 2013)
- Adventures with Dr. Smallz (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/dr-smallz-need-to-know-leah-hirsch) : Inspire students' need to know with a microscopic doctor lost in a patient's body. (Edutopia, 2014)
- Questions Before Answers (http://www.edutopia.org/blog/questions-answers-drive-great-lesson-richard-curwin) : Use great questions that motivate learning. (Edutopia, 2014)
- School in the Cloud (https://www.theschoolinthecloud.org/) : Ask students to investigate a Big Question within a Self-Organized Learning Environment (https://www.theschoolinthecloud.org/library/resources) . (School in the Cloud)

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Downloads and Examples From Schools That Work

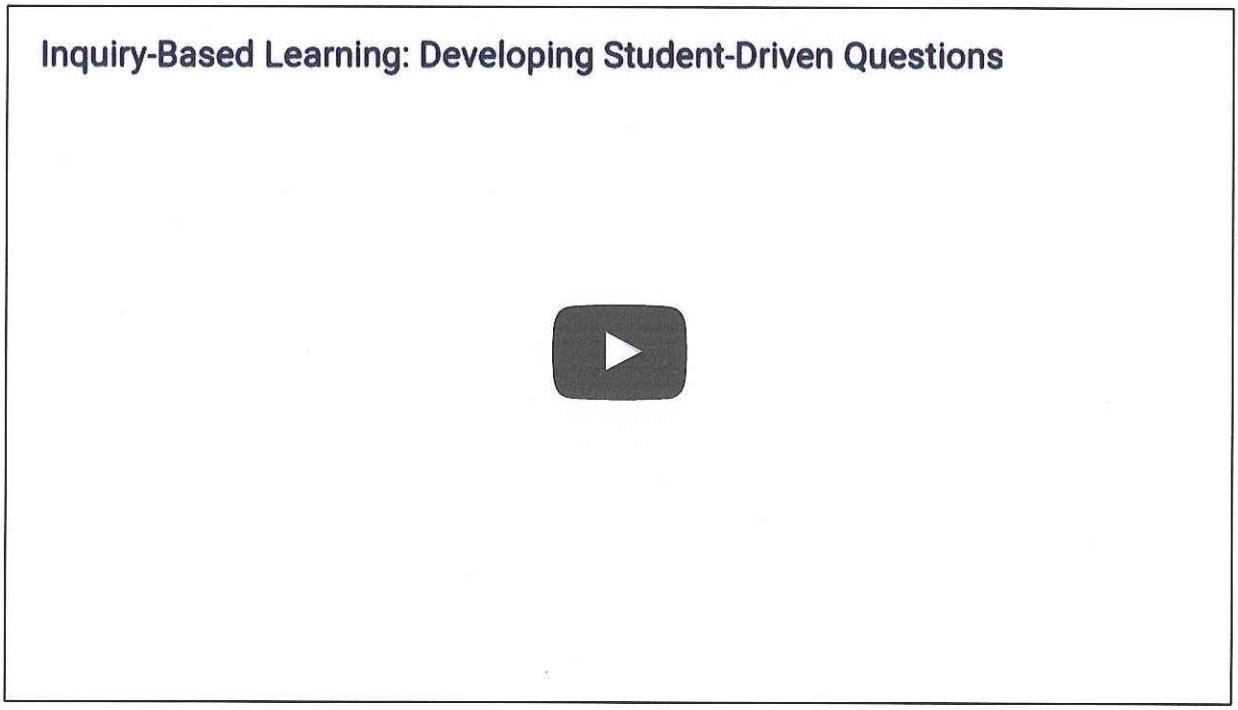
Edutopia's flagship series highlights practices and case studies from K-12 schools and districts that are improving the way students learn. Below, find downloads used by practitioners at featured schools, and dive into real-world examples of inquiry-based learning.

Inquiry-Based Learning: Developing Student-Driven Questions (http://www.edutopia.org/practice/wildwood-inquiry-based-learning-developing-student-driven-questions)

At Wildwood IB World Magnet School, teachers use student questions to drive lessons, and channel student curiosity into student-centered projects. Check out a few of Wildwood's inquiry-based teacher tools:

- Curriculum Map for Grades K-5 (http://www.edutopia.org/resource/wildwood-pyp-program-of-inquiry-download) -- Download this chart to understand how Wildwood aligns its lines of inquiry to specific curricular themes, central ideas, and key concepts throughout the year.
- Personal Project Questions (http://www.edutopia.org/resource/wildwood-6th-grade-personal-project-download) -- Download a worksheet that includes prompts to help students focus and think through the topics of their research.
- Sample Research Worksheet (http://www.edutopia.org/resource/wildwood-research-worksheet-download) -- Download a sample "My Personal Project" worksheet to learn how teachers at Wildwood help students organize plans for projects; students record questions, research notes, unfamiliar vocabulary, and how they will demonstrate what they've learned. For another resource of this type, see Wildwood's Personal Project Planner (http://www.edutopia.org/resource/wildwood-5th-grade-personal-project-download) .

- Personal Project Skills Survey (http://www.edutopia.org/resource/wildwood-personal-project-skills-survey-download) -- Download a project skills survey to discover how Wildwood students reflect on the skills they've tapped and personal work habits they've practiced while working on their projects.



Inquiry-Based Learning: From Teacher-Guided to Student-Driven (http://www.edutopia.org/practice/inquiry-based-learning-teacher-guided-student-driven)

See how Ralston Elementary School teachers guide the inquiry process over a series of lessons and teach students how to ask deeper questions to prepare them to lead their own inquiry into specific problems.

"I Wonder" Questions: Harnessing the Power of Inquiry (http://www.edutopia.org/practice/i-wonder-questions-harnessing-power-inquiry)

Learn how educators at Crellin Elementary School use students' "I Wonder" questions to drive lesson planning, differentiate instruction, and foster student curiosity.

Inquiry-Based Learning in the Science Classroom (http://www.edutopia.org/practice/inquiry-based-learning-science-classroom)

Science students at Casey Middle School begin with a central question and seek answers through research, experimentation, and data analysis. Review a sample question and lesson plan to understand how this works in practice.

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