

The Common Core Classroom

Instructional Strategy of the Week: “Inquiry Chart”

Inquiry charts, or I-Charts, guide inquiry into *reading by exploration of critical questions*. Students gather **evidence to support ideas from multiple sources of information**. It is a graphic organizer that frames critical questions and catalogues *evidence to support conclusions*. Students address the critical questions by first assessing what they know and then exploring multiple sources of information to derive a summary. Critical questions may be teacher-generated or student-generated.

Anchor Standards

R1

Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it; cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.

R2

Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

R3

Analyze how and why individuals, events, or ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.

Implementing the Strategy:

1. Students are given a chart to complete with a number of sources.
 - a. There are questions in columns across the top.
 - b. Each row corresponds with a particular source.
 - c. The last row is a general summary of each question.
2. After reading the critical questions in the header row, they then assess what they already know about the question.
3. Then students explore the topic through the questions in the columns. For each source or text, they answer the questions based on the source or text.
4. At the bottom, students compile all they have discovered into a coherent summary statement to answer each question for the topic in general.



	Question #1:	Question #2:	Question #3:
What I think I know			
Source 1:			
Source 2:			
Source 3:			
Summary of Information			

The teacher will give the students 3 questions to explore through multiple sources or the teacher can guide students in developing 3 questions.

Students will answer what they already know about the question.

Students will answer the questions using the sources.

Students will create a summary answer using facts from each source.