**Construcivist Media Decoding (CMD)**

**WHAT IS CMD?**

Construcivist Media Decoding (CMD) is a simple, inquiry-based teaching method that teaches core subject-area standards, develops habits of critical thinking, builds student agency, and engages all students.

**HOW TO GET STARTED?**

**STEP 1:** Plan Your Lesson

1. Brainstorm upcoming CMD opportunities.
   - What content will my students be learning?
   - What media can target my curricular goals and be engaging for all my students?
2. What are your objectives?
   - Will your media documents be accessible to all students?
   - What background knowledge do your students need for the decoding?
   - What questions can you ask students to meet your lesson’s objectives?
   - What follow-up questions will help your students think about each other?
3. What is Media, Media Literacy and CMD? (3 min)
4. High School Students Talk about Media Literacy (2 min)
5. Project Look Sharp Lessons (2 min)

**OR**

**STEP 2:** Review the CMD Guide for

- Tips to successfully lead a CMD
- Areas of caution
- Pitfalls to avoid

**OR**

**STEP 3:** Select a Lesson

Search Project Look Sharp’s website or select a lesson from our Guide for Art & Media Studies 6-12.

**STEP 4:** Plan Your Lesson

- What are your objectives?
- What questions can you ask students to meet your lesson’s objectives?
- What follow-up questions will help your students think about each other?
- What background knowledge do your students need for the decoding?
- Will your media documents be accessible to all students?

**STEP 5:** Teach Your Media Decoding Lesson!

After the lesson, REFLECT:

- What was successful?
- What was challenging?
- Use the Self-reflection Checklist

Find more CMD lessons at [Project Look Sharp](https://looksharp.org) or use our DIY guide to create your own!

**WHAT'S IN THIS KIT?**

**PLAN A CMD**

Curriculum-driven resources and steps to help you begin integrating Construcivist Media Decoding into your work with students.

**HABITS OF QUESTIONING**

- Develops habits of critical thinking
- Builds student agency
- Teaches core subject-area standards

**DEVELOPMENTAL AREAS**

- Builds on constructivist theory of learning
- Develops inquiry-based student-centered curriculum-driven teaching method where ALL students at all levels develop habits of questioning through media analysis.

**WHAT IS A STARTER KIT?**

This kit gives you the resources and steps you need to begin integrating Construcivist Media Decoding into your work with students.