# Constructivist Media Decoding STARTER KIT

## for Elementary All Subjects K-2

PROJECT LOOK SHARP — ITHACA COLLEGE

### WHAT IS CMD?

**Constructivist Media Decoding (CMD)**

is a **core content** **inquiry-based** teaching method where **ALL students** at **all levels** develop **habits of questioning** through **media analysis.**

### WHY CMD?

**THIS APPROACH IS**

inquiry-based      student-centered      curriculum-driven

**AND**   teaches core subject-area standards

develops habits of critical thinking

builds student agency

engages all students

### WHAT IS IN THIS KIT?

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

### HOW TO GET STARTED?

## WATCH:

▶ Constructivist Media Decoding - Why and How? (2 min.)

▶ The Impact of CMD - Student Voices (1 min.)

▶ Project Look Sharp Free Resources for CMD (2 min.)

▶ Watch a Short CMD Demonstration Video

### PLAN A CMD

## STEP 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?

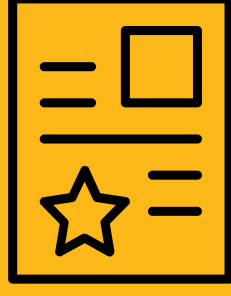What content and  media literacy questions should I ask?

### PLAN A CMD

## STEP 2:   Review Tips for Decoding:

- Preparing for a decoding
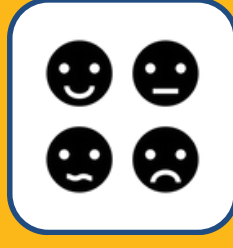- Leading a decoding
- Cautions

### PLAN A CMD

## STEP 3:   Select a Lesson

**Search Project Look Sharp's website, e.g.,**

Elementary All Subjects K-2

To narrow your search, add a *Keyword* or FILTER by *Subject, Media Type, Duration,* etc. **OR**

Still not sure? Choose one of the lessons below:

Mr. Rogers: What Do We Do When Our Feelings Are Hurt?

Dolphins in the Media

What Can You Tell From a Book Cover?

### PLAN A CMD

## 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
  ➡ deepen student thinking?
  ➡ help them teach each other?
- What background knowledge do your students need for the decoding?
- Will your media documents be accessible to all students?

Click for Example CMD Plan

### LEAD A CMD

## STEP 5:  Teach Your Media Decoding Lesson!

After the lesson, REFLECT:

What was successful?

What was challenging?

Use the Self-evaluation Checklist

### NEXT STEPS

Find more CMD lessons at

PROJECT LOOK SHARP

or use our DIY guide to create your own!