Constructivist Media Decoding
STARTER KIT
for Elementary Library K-2

PROJECT LOOK SHARP — ITHACA COLLEGE

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.**

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

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

WATCH:

- ▶ What is Media, Media Literacy and CMD? (3 min)
- ▶ High School Students Talk about Media Literacy (2 min)
- ▶ Project Look Sharp Lessons (2 min)
- ▶ Watch a Short CMD Demonstration Video

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?

STEP 2: Review the CMD Guide for

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

STEP 3: Select a Lesson

Search Project Look Sharp's website

OR

Select a lesson from our Guide for Library & Information K-2

OR

Still not sure? Choose one of the lessons below:
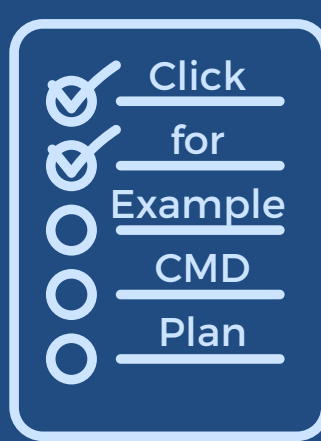
Mr. Rogers: What Do We Do When Our Feelings Are Hurt?

Dolphins in the Media

What Can You Tell From a Book Cover?

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

STEP 5: Teach Your Media Decoding Lesson!

After the lesson, REFLECT:

What was successful?

What was challenging?

Use the Self-evaluation Checklist.

Find more CMD lessons at

PROJECT LOOK SHARP

or use our DIY guide to create your own!