Constructivist Media Decoding (CMD) STARTER KIT
for Elementary Health K-2

WHAT IS CMD?
Constructivist Media Decoding (CMD) is a task-based, inquiry-based teaching method where ALL students at all levels develop habits of questioning through media decoding.

THEORY BEHIND WHICH approaches are:
- student-centered curriculum-driven
- teaches core subject-area standards
- develops habits of critical thinking
- builds student agency
- teaches core subject-area standards

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

WHAT’S IN THIS KIT?
- What is Media, Media Literacy and CMD? (3 min)
- High School Students Talk about Media Literacy (2 min)
- Click to access free media resources.
- Watch a short CMD demonstration video.

HOW TO GET STARTED?
- What content will my students be learning?
- What content and media can target my curricular goals and be engaging for all my students? What current or future curricular units should I ask?

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STARTER KIT
- for Elementary Health K-2

WHAT I S I N T H I S K I T?
- What content will my students be learning?
- What content and media can target my curricular goals and be engaging for all my students? What current or future curricular units should I ask?

WHAT ARE YOUR OBJECTIVES?
- Will your media documents be accessible to all students?
- What background knowledge do your students need for the decoding?
- What follow-up questions will help them teach each other?
- What background knowledge do your students need for the decoding?
- Will your media documents be accessible to all students?

OR
- What media can target my curricular goals and be engaging for all my students?
- What current or future curricular units should I ask?
- What are your objectives?
- What background knowledge do your students need for the decoding?
- What follow-up questions will help them teach each other?

STEP 1: Brainstorm upcoming CMD opportunities
- What content will my students be learning?
- What content and media can target my curricular goals and be engaging for all my students? What current or future curricular units should I ask?

STEP 2: Revisit the CMD Guide for:
- What media can target my curricular goals and be engaging for all my students? What current or future curricular units should I ask?

Or
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STEP 3: Select a Lesson
- Search Project Look Sharp’s website
- Select a lesson from our guide for Elementary Health K-2
- OR
- Still not sure? Choose one of the lessons below:

OR
- What background knowledge do your students need for the decoding?
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STEP 4: Plan Your Lesson
- Plan your lesson
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- Plan your lesson

OR
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STEP 5: Teach Your Media Decoding Lesson!
- After the lesson, REFLECT:
- What was successful?
- What was challenging?
- Use the Self-Reflection Checklist

Find more free lesson pages at
or use our DIY guide to create your own

High School Students Talk about Media Literacy
(2 min)

Elementary Health K-2

Project Look Sharp
Ithaca College
119 Williams Hall
Ithaca, NY 14850

Tips to successfully lead a CMD
- Tip to successfu lead a CMD
- Tip to successfully lead a CMD
- Tip to successfully lead a CMD

Pitfalls to avoid
- Pitfalls to avoid
- Pitfalls to avoid
- Pitfalls to avoid

WHAT ARE YOUR OBJECTIVES?
- What are your objectives?
- What questions can you ask students to meet these objectives?
- What follow-up questions will help them teach each other?

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