

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:

- ▶ [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.)
- ▶ [ML3: Why and How Librarians are Leading K-12 Media Literacy](#) (4 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 Tips for Decoding:

- Preparing for a decoding
- Leading a decoding
- Cautions



STEP 3: Select a Lesson



Search Project Look Sharp's website, e.g., [Library & Information Literacy 9-12](#)
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:



[Social Media & the Elections: What's the Connection?](#)



[Media Bias Charts: Who's Rating What?](#)



[Understanding Teen Media Use: Different Research Techniques](#)

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?



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



or use our [DIY guide](#) to create your own!