Constructivist Media Decoding (CMD)

**STARTER KIT**
for Library & Information Literacy 9-12

**THIS APPROACH IS**
- 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 (CMD) into your work with students.

**WATCH:**
- Constructive 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)

**STEPS**

**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.
- Still not sure? Choose one of the lessons below:

- Social Media and the Elections: What’s the Connection? (2 min)
- Media Bias Charts: Who’s Rating What? (2 min)
- Understanding Teen Media Use: Different Research Techniques (2 min)
- 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)

**STEP 4:** Plan Your Lesson
- What are your objectives?
- What questions will help students to meet your lesson’s objectives?
- What follow-up questions will help student thinking?
- How can you help each other?
- What learning outcomes do you expect your students to reach 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 Reflective Checklists

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

**WHAT IS CMD?**

- Constructivist Media Decoding (CMD) is an inquiry-based teaching method where ALL students:
  - will develop habits of questioning through 
    - an activity
  - Cautions

**WHY CMD?**

- Through CMD, students:
  - start with questions
  - develop critical thinking
  - build student agency
  - engage all students

**HOW TO GET STARTED?**

- Start with one of the lessons below
- Plan a lesson
- Teach your Media Decoding Lesson
- Reflect on your lesson
- Brainstorm upcoming CMD opportunities

**SELECT A LESSON**

- [Understanding Teen Media Use: Different Research Techniques](https://www.projectlooksharp.org/resource/understanding-teen-media-use-different-research-techniques)
- [The Impact of CMD - Student Voices](https://www.projectlooksharp.org/resource/the-impact-of-cmd-student-voices)
- [Project Look Sharp Free Resources for CMD](https://www.projectlooksharp.org/resource/project-look-sharp-free-resources-for-cmd)
- [ML3: Why and How Librarians are Leading K-12 Media Literacy](https://www.projectlooksharp.org/resource/ml3-why-and-how-librarians-are-leading-k-12-media-literacy)

**SEARCH**
- Library & Information Literacy 9-12
- To narrow your search, add a Keyword or FILTER by Subject, Media Type, Duration, etc.

**INTERNATIONAL**
- [Ithaca College](https://www.ithaca.edu/)
- [Plan Your Lesson](https://www.projectlooksharp.org/guides/plan-your-lesson)
- [Review Tips for Decoding](https://www.projectlooksharp.org/guides/review-tips-for-decoding)
- [Select a Lesson](https://www.projectlooksharp.org/guides/select-a-lesson)
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**CONSTRUCTIVIST MEDIA DECODING**

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**PROJECT LOOK SHARP**

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