Constructivist Media Decoding (CMD) is a two-step, inquiry-based teaching method where ALL students at all levels develop habits of critical thinking through engaged learning.

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

**Plan A CMD**

**WHAT IS CMD?**

**WHY CMD?**

**HOW TO GET STARTED?**

**Lead A CMD**

**Next Steps**

**you need to begin**

**or use our**

**into your work with students.**

**Preparing for a decoding**

**Leading a decoding**

**Cautions**

Find more CMD lessons at

**After the lesson, REFLECT:**

What was successful?

What was challenging?

Use the **teaching method**

**WHAT ARE YOUR OBJECTIVES?**

What questions can you ask students to meet your lesson’s objectives?

**WHAT FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS WILL HELP THEM TEACH EACH OTHER?**

**WHAT SIGNIFICANT BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE DO YOUR STUDENTS NEED FOR THE DECODING?**

**WILL YOUR MEDIA DOCUMENTS BE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL STUDENTS?**

**WHAT MEDIA CAN TARGET MY CURRICULAR GOALS?**

**AND BE ENGAGING FOR ALL MY STUDENTS?**

**WHAT CONTENT AND MEDIA LITERACY QUESTIONS SHOULD I ASK?**

Still not sure? Choose one of the lessons below:

**STEP 1:** Brainstorm upcoming CMD opportunities

- what content will my students be learning?
- what media can I use to target my curricular goals?
- and be engaging for all my students?

**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.,

- “Inquire” to narrow your search, add a Keyword or FILTER by Subject, Media Type, Duration, etc.
- OR

**STEPS not sure? Choose one of the lessons below:**

**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 help them teach each other?
- What significant 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-reflection checklist**

Find more CMD lessons at /

or use our DIY guide to create your own!

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

**The Impact of CMD - Student Voices (2 min.)**

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

**Interpreting Charts of Media Use (1 min.)**

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

**Project Look Sharp Free Resources for CMD (1 min.)**

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**Drought & Farming: Thirsty Crops**

**Polling on Structural Racism**

**Changing Our Media Habits: Impact of the Pandemic**

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

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

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