

# Inquiry Orientation Checklist

## How do you prepare for and facilitate an inquiry?

### Before

- Choose a topic for your inquiry that is engaging and relevant to students and is also unresolved, allowing students to uncover multiple perspectives.
- Write a Compelling Question that is engaging, relevant, and rigorous that can be answered in multiple ways.
- Select a variety of sources that represent a diverse set of perspectives on the topic.
- Create a hook exercise that aligns to the Compelling Question and provides a space for students to become curious.
- If possible, collaborate with colleagues to prepare your inquiry.

### During

- Teach students the language of inquiry: questions, sources, evidence, and argument so that you begin to cultivate a culture of inquiry by using inquiry language and establishing a consistent routine.
- Make Compelling and supporting questions visible to students to ensure that the instruction is framed by questions, not answers.
- Create spaces for students to collaborate and discuss.
- Support students in developing evidence-based claims in response to the Compelling Question.
- Monitor student progress throughout the inquiry and allow there to be productive struggle.

### After

- Review student work and consider both the process of inquiry and its products. It may be that students learned more than the final products reveal as they might be learning how to inquire.
- Assess what materials and instruction were successful and what can be improved.
- Collaborate with colleagues, if possible, to evaluate the success of the inquiry and areas for future growth.