

Essential Question Lesson Checklist



The Essential Question:

- The question is written in engaging, provocative student friendly language.
- The question is directly linked to the standards and benchmarks.
- The question requires students to use thinking skills at the top end of Bloom's Taxonomy (analysis, interpretation, inference, synthesis and/or evaluation).
- The question begins with How, Why, or Which to provoke a sense of wonder and curiosity in the students.

Information Resources:

- The resource(s) match the students' reading and developmental level
- The resource(s) support authentic construction, communication and/or problem solving.
- The resource(s) are integral to the students learning the concept and understanding the essential question.
- The resources help students to build an answer to the essential question.

Task:

- The activity is well structured; expectations, purpose and directions are very clear and precise for the students.
- Students have easy access to the resources needed to complete their task(s).
- The activity involves collaboration, inquiry, investigation, knowledge building, problem solving, research, cognitive engagement and/or hands-on learning tasks.
- The activity requires students to use higher level thinking skills, they "make" answers rather than "find" answers.
- A graphic organizer or other format is used to help students organize the information they find.
- Activities accommodate the learning needs of all students.

Assessment:

- A pre-assessment of prior knowledge is completed.

- Assessment is authentic and is integrated throughout the lesson.
- Assessments are directly linked to the essential question, standards and benchmarks.
- The assessment activity requires the development of a student directed product or a product related to real-world applications.

Enrichment:

- The activities extend and enrich the learning of the students.
- Differentiated activities provide opportunities to accommodate students' learning styles, needs, and interests.
- Activities provide resources for the students whose curiosity and wonder go beyond the classroom activities.

The Student will:

- The “Know” includes facts, names, places, vocabulary and/or definitions.
- The “Do” includes processes and skills
- The “Understand” includes principles and big ideas. It begins with “I want students to understand THAT . . .”
- The students are able to articulate what they are expected to know, be able to do, and their understanding of the lesson.

Standards

- All of the activities and goals of the lesson are directly linked to the standards and benchmarks
- The lesson clearly expresses the benchmarks and standards that are assessed throughout the lesson
- **Teacher Resources:**
- Materials and/or additional resources such as books, teacher guides, or other web resources have been added if it would be helpful to other teachers.

http://www.tltguide.ccsd.k12.co.us/instructional_tools/lessons/EssentialQuestionsCkList.pdf

