



Guiding the Conversation

Teacher Interviews on Using Current Affairs to Help Students Think Critically and Make Decisions.

This guide is intended for Professional Learning Communities groups, instructional leaders or self-paced study to help guide conversations and reflections.

General synopsis: In this video, teachers discuss some of the ways to use current affairs in Social Studies centered on critical thinking and decision-making.

Clip 1 Synopsis: The teachers discuss the importance of teaching fact versus opinions and current affairs.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Question(s): How does teaching fact and opinion help students become critical thinkers? In what ways do you use current affairs to explore Social Studies outcomes?
Clip 2 Synopsis: The teachers discuss some of the ways they assess student learning of outcomes.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Question(s): What tools are valuable for judging student reasoning and giving feedback? What evidence will you accept as a demonstration of student learning?
Clip 3 Synopsis: Teachers discuss strategies to help meet the needs of a diverse group of learners.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Question(s): In what ways do you adjust instruction for different kinds of learners in your classroom?
Clip 4 Synopsis: Teachers discuss key professional learning opportunities that have added to understanding of the Program of Studies.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Question(s): In what ways do you engage in professional learning? What role does collaboration play?

Link to the Alberta Education Program of Studies and other resources at <http://education.alberta.ca/teachers/program/socialstudies.aspx>

For further information on learning opportunities to support implementation visit www.erlc.ca

Clip 5 Synopsis: Teacher discuss some things students have been saying about learning through current affairs.

- **Question(s):** What response have you seen when you use current affairs in teaching?

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