

# 5 Simple Questions

Student voice in a classroom is a powerful tool of engagement. But to create that culture of student inquiry, good questions are essential. Here are 5 good ones, useful at any time, in any lesson.

*"Share with a neighbor before sharing with me."*

"What do you think?"

Best used after a statement, prediction, conclusion, or observation. Students will often need for us to provide clarity on what we mean by "What do you think?" Ironically, the simplicity might confuse them.

Push students to provide more depth and reason for their answers.

"Why do you think that?"

"How do you know this?"

When this question is asked, students can make connections to their ideas and thoughts with things they've experienced, read and have seen.

This question challenges students to extend their thinking and share further evidence for their ideas.

"Can you tell me more?"

"What questions do you still have?"

Questions like this require patience - wait time, but also time for students to get used to asking questions, not just answering them.

Brevity is a part of why these are *simple, yet powerful* questions. They require students to provide the weight, depth and complexity to a conversation.