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Connecting	Stretching	Transferring	
Topic: 3a About Resourcefulness		Activity: Questions for Answers	

What you are trying to achieve ...

Students appreciate that there are a range of strategies that can be used to improve questioning. Sometimes we ask open and exploratory questions and at other times we try and limit the focus in order to tie things down. Good questioners are strategic about their questioning — they stop, distil what they know and refocus themselves.

Introduce the Session

“In this session we are going to try and think through what we need to do to really understand something.

We are going to have to get used to asking ourselves questions as we try to make links between what we know and what we don’t know.

We are going to have to imagine what might be, as well as thinking logically through what we know for certain.

In order to do this, we are going to be using a lot of resources — what we know from past experience and what we can use from the world beyond our experience.”

Set up the Learning Challenge

Groups of five

One card per group

The card gives the answer.

Challenge: Plan a series of questions that would get you to arrive at this answer

Debrief Through Discussion

“If we are to understand something we need to be in the habit of asking open and exploratory questions that open things up before we tie things down and link things together.”

Invite observations about the kinds of questions that help to open and close thinking.

Explore the differences between reasoning and imagination.

Consider the range of resources that are available on which students can capitalise.

Extend into Linking Ideas

Print or show Linking Ideas and move into those activities.

Hints and tips	Things to Try ...
Avoid providing answers and solutions — keep the activity open and encourage speculation — lead them towards a narrowing-down process.	Link to reflectiveness and the importance of planning in advance of action, distilling what you find out along the way, and revising your initial thoughts as you begin to find out more.
Try to be in the habit of saying ‘could be’.	

Coaching Notes

DIY Resource

Linking Ideas


www.blp.uk.com

Connecting

Coaching Notes

3a About Resourcefulness

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