

An Enquiry framework

Use a mix of given and children's own questions as a starting point - some prompts may be:

What do we already know about this?
What do we want to know?
What do we need to know?
What issues are there?
How do we feel about this?
How does this relate to our own experience?
(How do these questions affect my planning?)

Choose as a class the most relevant questions you want to investigate.

Now decide:

How can we find out? What resources will we need? What techniques? What skills and knowledge are relevant?
Data loggers? Maps? Questionnaires?

How will we analyse and present information?

Video? Stories?
Reports? Graphs?
Tables? Pictures?
Drama?

Starting Point and Focus

What has this experience taught us? How do we know? Has it changed our thinking and if so, how?

Self and peer assessment activities – what I am most proud of? Where I could improve my work? What changes have I made to my thinking?

What new questions do we have?

What do we do with this knowledge? Who can we share it with? And how? For example:

Feedback to each other in class school web site, presentations to other classes, assemblies, newsletters to parents, letters to the local press, our MP, exhibitions etc. Building new knowledge into action.

What have we found out? Do we all share the same point of view? How does this affect our lives? What does it mean to us?

Sharing different conceptions / misconceptions. Making links back to our everyday lives and our diversity of values. Thinking about compromises on difficult issues.