

ISTE 2026



**Amplify Your Impact:
Where Thinking
Routines Meet Digital
Citizenship Magic!**

**Wednesday, July 1
11:00 - 12:30 PM (ET US)**

ISTE 2026

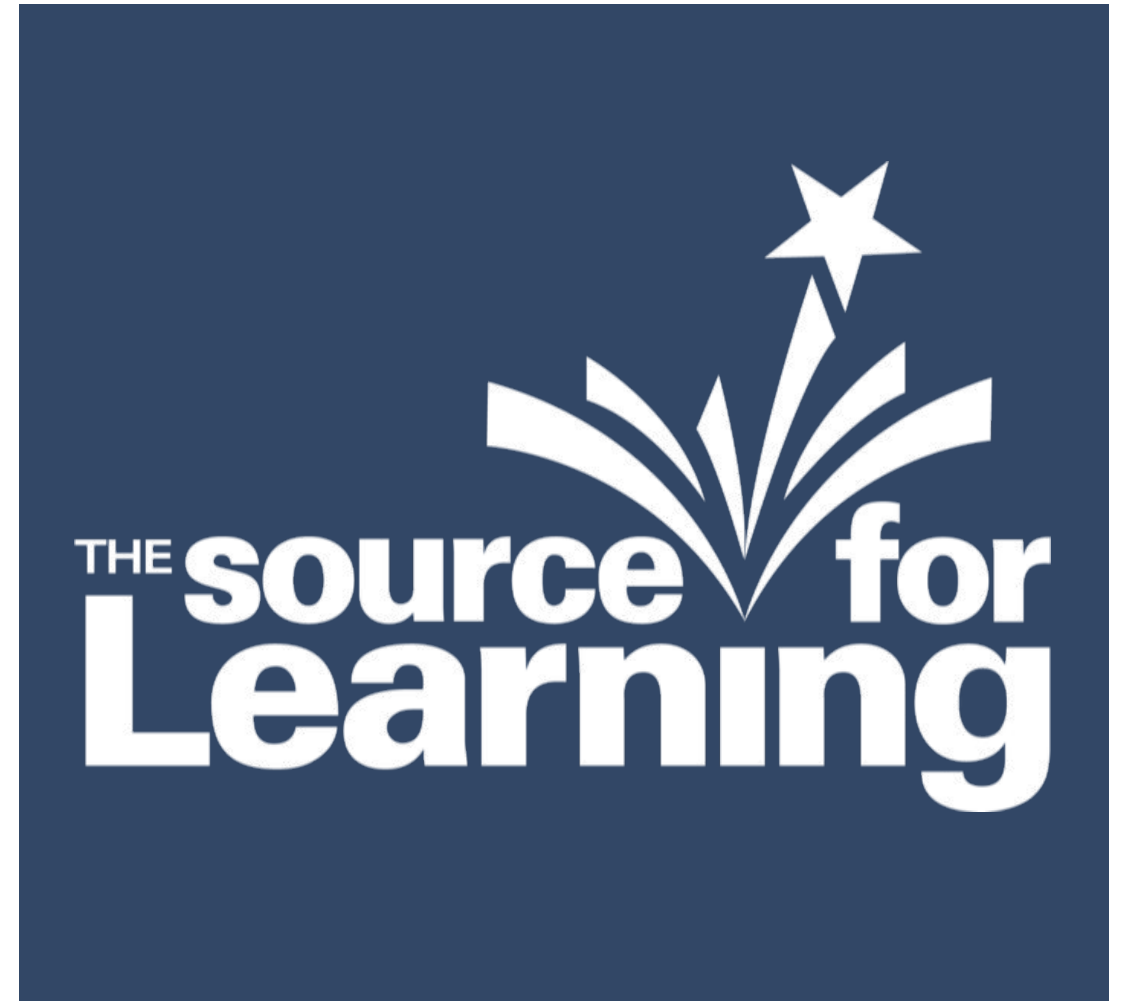


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Resources for Today's Session

This link will provide access to the slide deck and a few extras that we'd love to share with you.



<http://bit.ly/4vWylgt>

Project Zero Thinking Routines

Make learning more meaningful

Encourage students to reflect

Easily fit into your lessons

Students become deeper thinkers

Dozens of different routines



Demo

Thinking Routines:

- Project Zero
- Special Topics Collection
- Free Professional Learning Unit

Thinking Routines for Introducing and Exploring New Ideas

- **See - Think - Wonder**

- Students observe carefully, share what they think about what they see, and pose questions that make them curious (wonder).

- **Think - Puzzle - Explore**

- Students consider what they already know, identify what puzzles them and plan how they can further explore the topic.



Thinking Routines for Synthesizing and Organizing Ideas



▪ 3-2-1 Bridges

- Students record 3 thoughts, 2 questions, and 1 analogy before and after learning, then create a “bridge” explaining how their thinking has changed.

▪ I Used to Think... Now I Think

- Students reflect on how their thinking has shifted after new learning experiences.

Thinking Routines for Digging Deeper into Ideas

- **What Makes You Say That?**
 - Students provide reasoning and evidence for the conclusions.
- **Claim - Support - Question**
 - Students make a claim about a topic, provide evidence, and pose questions.
- **Circle of Viewpoints**
 - Students consider different perspectives by identifying various stakeholders.



Thinking Routines for Truth and Fairness

- **Red Light - Yellow Light**

- Students identify information that might be questionable (red light) versus reliable (yellow light) when evaluating resources.

- **Tug of War**

- Students explore tensions and different sides of complex issues or dilemmas.



Thinking Made Visible

- The science is rooted in how our brains learn.
- Activates multiple areas of the brain simultaneously.



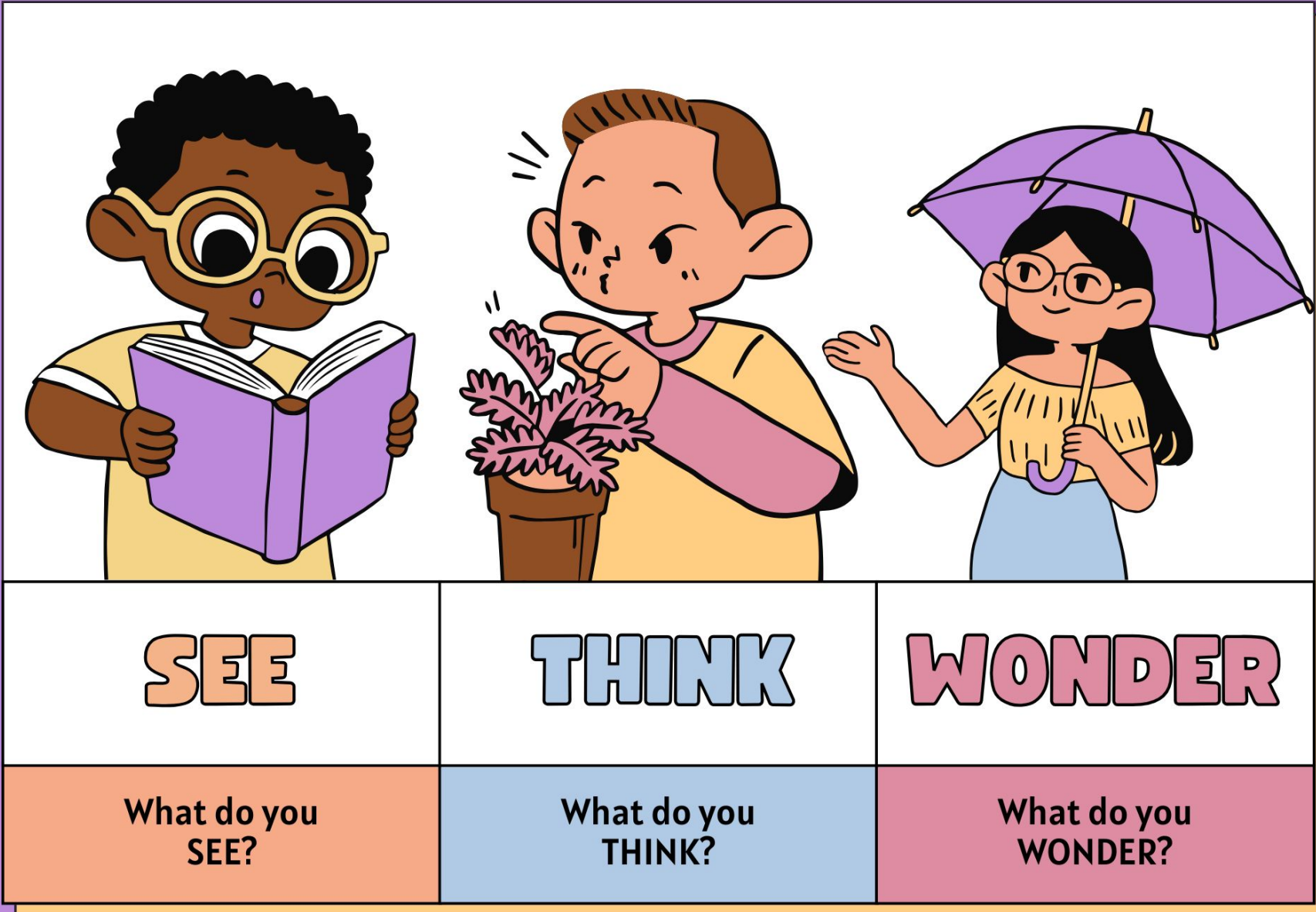


Digital citizenship needs deeper thinking, not just rule following.

Thinking Routines - Powerful Tools for Digital Citizenship

- **Red Light - Yellow Light** - Evaluate source credibility and bias.
- **Circle of Viewpoints** - Consider how digital actions can affect others.
- **Claim-Support-Question** - Dig deeper into information online.
- **What Makes You Say That?** - Examine evidence behind digital choices.







The Social Media Bubble
MyCivicsLife Administrator
9/16/2025

Disapprove

Approve

Look at this political cartoon by Tom Fishburne. It shows a conversation between two people about "data."

1. **SEE:** In Your own words, what does the woman in the cartoon mean when she refers to "data" from her "social media bubble"?
2. **THINK:** Why might it be a problem for a healthy democracy when people only get their information from a bubble of people who think exactly like them?
3. **WONDER:** What are two specific actions a good digital citizen can take to get more balanced information and avoid being stuck in a social media bubble?

Respond below.



2 Comments

Bookmark

Share

Options



Join the discussion...

Add Comment

According to the data, I'm right and you're wrong.

What data?

A survey of everyone in my social media bubble who thinks exactly like me.

TOM
FISH
BURNE

MyCivicsLife

MCL

Sample Student Response 9/16/2025

1. In the cartoon, when the woman talks about "data" from her "social media bubble," she doesn't mean real facts or numbers. She's just talking about the opinions of her friends and the people she follows online who already agree with her. It's called a "**bubble**" because she's only seeing and hearing from people who think exactly the same way she does, which makes it seem like her opinion is the only correct one.
2. This is a problem for a healthy democracy because democracy depends on people being able to talk to each other and compromise, even when they disagree. If people only get information from a social media bubble, they might not understand the other side's point of view. This can lead to more fighting and less cooperation, making it harder for people to work together to solve our country's problems. It also makes people less likely to trust information that doesn't fit their beliefs.
3. A good **digital citizen** can avoid being stuck in a social media bubble by doing two things. First, they can **follow a variety of news sources** and people online, including some who have different opinions from their own. Second, they can **fact-check information** they see online by looking up the same topic on at least two or three different, reliable websites before they believe it or share it with others.

Step In - Step Out - Step Back:

- Develop empathy
- Explore complex situations from various viewpoints.
- Builds perspective-taking skills.



Step In - Step Out - Step Back:

Step In

Imagine yourself in the situation

What does the person think, feel, and know?

Step Out

Distance yourself from the situation

How can you better understand the other position?

Step Back

Take a broader view to identify new insights

Examine how your perspective has shifted

Example Scenario



During an online multiplayer game, a player uses offensive language and excludes others based on their skill level, making disparaging comments about their abilities.

3 WHY'S THINKING ROUTINE

Inquiry topic:

WHY

does this unit matter
to me?

WHY

does this unit matter
to people around me?

WHY

does this unit matter
to the world?



Padlet Example



Tips for Adapting Thinking Routines

Tips for Elementary Students

- **Early Elementary**
 - Make it visual and concrete
 - Simplify language
- **Upper Elementary**
 - Add more complexity gradually
 - Encourage evidence-based thinking



Tips for Secondary Students

- **Middle School**
 - Embrace controversy and complexity
 - Foster independence
- **High School**
 - Deepen analysis and synthesis
 - Transfer ownership

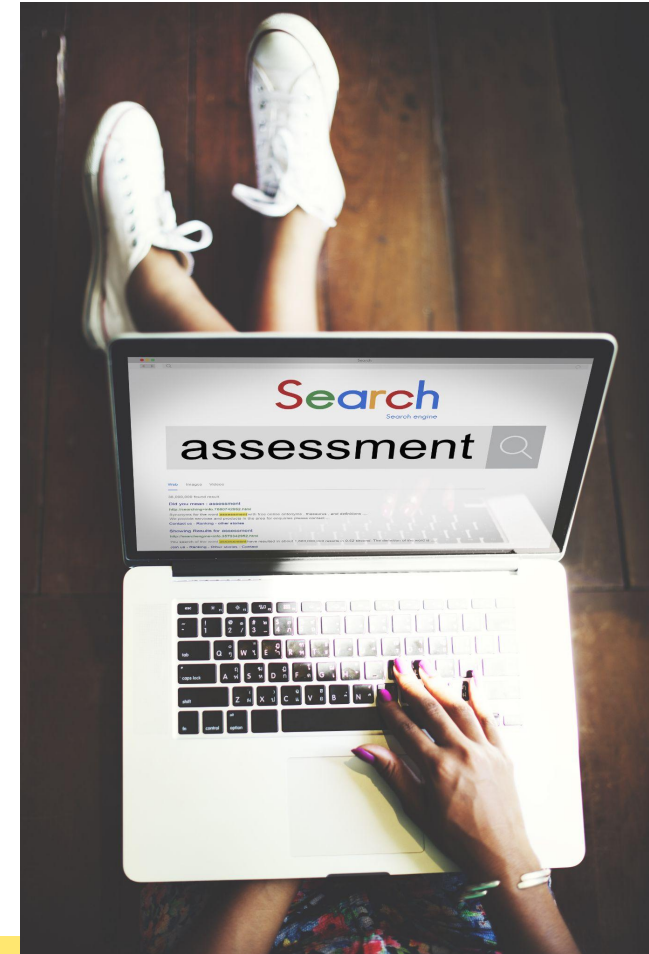




Integrate thinking routines into existing curriculum

Assessment Strategies + Thinking Routines

- **See Think Wonder**
 - Observations in science
- **What Makes You Say That?**
 - Reasoning in literature discussions





Create Sustainable Digital Citizenship Instruction

Example Ideas - Elementary



- **Title** - Digital Footprints
- **Thinking Routine** - Step In - Step Out - Step Back
- **Scenario** - A character in a story posts a photo of their messy room online

Example Ideas - Middle School



- **Title** - Fake News Detection
- **Thinking Routine** - True for Who?
- **Scenario** - Analyzing a suspicious news article about a local event

Example Ideas - High School



- **Title** - Social Media Algorithms
- **Thinking Routine** - The 3 Whys
- **Scenario** - Understanding why certain content appears in their feed

Cross-Curricular Examples

Seek to Share - Science + Digital Citizenship

Unveiling Stories - English + Digital Citizenship

Values, Identities, and Actions - Civics

How Else and Why? - Math + Digital Citizenship



Demo

Thinking Routine Templates and More:

- Padlet Templates
- Canva Templates
- Book Creator



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