

## Questions to Facilitate Inquiry

### OPENING QUESTIONS

Opening questions invite participation, provoke curiosity, and give you the chance get to know someone new.

Would you like to try this?  
 What does this [image, prop] remind you of?  
 Would you like to help me solve this problem?  
 Have you ever [been to the ocean, looked up at the stars, felt an earthquake]? Tell me about it.  
 Have you ever seen this before?

My ideas:

### EXPLORATION QUESTIONS

Exploration questions encourage active play, experimentation, discovery, and thoughtfulness. They help to access prior knowledge.

In what ways are these materials different?  
 In what ways are these materials the same?  
 What materials did you use?  
 What would happen if?  
 What might you try instead?  
 What does it look like?  
 What does it remind you of?  
 What can you tell me about what happened?  
 What could you do instead?  
 Which one do you have more of?  
 How are you going to do that?  
 What do you [feel, see, hear, taste, smell]?  
 What is it made of?  
 What do you call the things you are using?  
 Have you ever seen anything like this before?  
 What if we try?  
 What happens when [two magnets are held together, a rock is dropped, water is heated up]?

My ideas:

### MAKING-MEANING QUESTIONS

Making-Meaning questions facilitate reflection, support inference, aid understanding, and inspire further exploration.

Why do you think that happened?  
 What evidence makes you think that?  
 How do you think we could explain that?  
 What if we changed [one variable]?  
 What do you suppose the connections might be between (provide examples)?  
 What do you think this tells us about (fill in the blank)?  
 How could we find out if this is true?  
 Do you have an idea how we could test this out?  
 What do you think we might learn if we repeated this experiment again and again?  
 What would you need to find out more?

My ideas: