



Questions for Inquiry-Based Learning

Checklist	Yes	No
Is the question something youth really care about?		
Does the question require more than just looking up a simple fact?		
Is the answer something youth already known?		
Is there more than one possible 'right' answer?		

Do these questions make the cut?

- Where is Chicago?
- How do they get the toothpaste in the tube?
- How much does a car cost in Japan?
- Why did Dr. Seuss write *The Cat in the Hat*?
- What is text messaging?
- Is R&B more popular than rap?
- How many people live in New York City?
- Why does the grass turn brown in the summer?
- Is the price of gas the same in Montana as it is in New Jersey?

The Four Steps to the Inquiry Process:

- (1) **Ask Question:** Probe youth to get to the “real” question they want to ask.
- (2) **Get Resources:** Help youth find resources to answer their question. Encourage youth to question whether or not the information is valid or good information.
- (3) **Apply Information:** Help youth decide if the information is useful or answers their question.
- (4) **Report Findings:** Encourage youth to create their own way to show what they learned.

