



Thinking Nation

Notice, Wonder, Think

The Notice, Wonder, Think learning strategy is an inquiry-based approach that encourages students to engage deeply with a topic, image, text, or historical event by breaking down their observations and thoughts into three categories:

1. Notice – This step focuses on observation. Students carefully examine the material and describe exactly what they see without making assumptions.

- Example prompts:
 - What do you see?
 - What details stand out to you?
 - What words, images, or symbols do you recognize?

2. Wonder – This step encourages questioning and curiosity. Students ask questions about what they have noticed.

- Example prompts:
 - What do you wonder about this?
 - What questions do you have?
 - What do you want to know more about?

3. Think – This step involves interpretation and critical thinking. Students connect their observations and questions to prior knowledge, draw inferences, and make predictions or conclusions.

- Example prompts:
 - What do you think is happening?
 - Why do you think this is important?
 - How does this connect to what we've learned before?

This activity Encourages active engagement and critical thinking and Works well for primary sources, images, and complex texts. Finally, the strategy Supports historical inquiry by allowing students to develop their own interpretations before being given additional context.