

This Learning Guide is designed for use by Professional Learning Communities, learning coaches and teacher leaders or as a self-paced study to explore how critical thinking can support student success.

Critical Thinking

with
Garfield Gini-Newman



This learning guide is intended to be used after viewing the video clip:

[Introducing Critical Thinking with Garfield Gini-Newman](#)

Lesson synopsis

In this short video clip, Garfield Gini-Newman defines critical thinking and discusses why it is important.

Key understandings:

- Critical thinking is making thoughtful decisions using criteria to guide you.
- Critical thinking helps students learn content more deeply and live richer, deeper lives.
- There is a double payoff with the *Learn to think; think to learn* approach to critical thinking. Not only do students learn to think more effectively, but also they learn concepts and content through that thinking.

Questions for discussion:

- To what extent does Garfield's definition of critical thinking challenge or affirm your own understanding of the term?
- From your own experience, can you describe an example where critical thinking enriched your own life?
- Thinking about your students, describe some of the places they use "critical" thinking effectively.

For more information:

[Cross-Curricular Competencies](#)

- [Know how to learn](#)
- [Think critically](#)
- [Demonstrate global and cultural understanding](#)
- [Identify and apply career and life skills](#)

[The Critical Thinking Consortium](#)
[Engaging All Learners - Support for Implementation](#)

Acknowledgement:

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