

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:

[Overview of Intellectual Tools with Garfield Gini-Newman](#)

Lesson synopsis

In this short video clip, Garfield Gini-Newman lists the intellectual tools that students need for success as critical thinkers.

Key understandings:

There are five intellectual tools required by critical thinkers.

1. Background knowledge
2. Criteria for judgment (decision making)
3. Critical thinking vocabulary
4. Thinking strategies
5. Positive habits of mind

Questions for discussion:

- What was your response to Garfield's statement that students are not on a level playing field?
- Rank the order of the five intellectual tools in terms of your students' needs. Which tools require the most attention? Which require the least? After listening to the remaining clips on the five intellectual tools, revisit your ranking.

For more information:

[Cross-Curricular Competencies](#)

- [Know how to learn](#)
- [Think critically](#)
- [Manage information](#)
- [Apply multiple literacies](#)

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

Acknowledgement:

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