See / Think / Wonder

Look at the artwork or object for a moment.

What do you see?

What do you think about what you see?

What do you wonder about?

WHAT KIND OF THINKING DOES THIS ROUTINE ENCOURAGE? This routine helps students make careful observations and develop their own ideas and interpretations based on what they see. By separating the two questions, What do you see? and What do you think about what you see?, the routine helps students distinguish between observations and interpretations. By encouraging students to wonder and ask questions, the routine stimulates curiosity and helps students reach for new connections.

WHEN AND WHERE CAN IT BE USED? This widely-used routine works well with almost any artwork or object. It is versatile, easy to use, and almost never fails to deepen students' interest in the topic at hand, whether students have lots of background knowledge or none at all. Many teachers like to use this routine at the start of a lesson, or as a first step in a more extended activity.
THINK / PUZZLE / EXPLORE

What do you think you know about this artwork or topic?

What questions or puzzles do you have?

What does the artwork or topic make you want to explore?

WHAT KIND OF THINKING DOES THIS ROUTINE ENCOURAGE? This routine helps students connect to prior knowledge, stimulates curiosity, and lays the groundwork for independent student inquiry.

WHEN AND WHERE CAN IT BE USED? Almost anywhere, anytime. The routine can be used with artwork, text, film, etc. The routine works particularly when beginning a topic, and when you want students to develop their own areas of interest and questions of investigation. The routine can also be used along a course of study to connect prior learning to new information.