

Question Prompts for Real-World Connections

Interests

- What topics are your students currently interested in?
- What kinds of media, trends, or hobbies are they talking about outside of class?

Experiences

- What do your students already know a lot about, based on their backgrounds or lived experiences?
- What challenges or opportunities have shaped the way they see the world?

Issues

- What current events or social issues are on your students' minds?
- What issues—local or global—should they be aware of, given their context?

Change

- What opportunities do students have to make a difference in their school or community?
- How can your lesson encourage them to take action or engage with a cause?

Authenticity

- How can students produce work that feels real and purposeful?
- Are there formats, audiences, or tools that mirror how work happens outside of school?

Advisors

- How could students benefit from hearing from adults with real-life experience?
- What community members or family connections could serve as informal mentors or guides?

Experts

- Who in your community (or virtually) could bring your lesson content to life?
- How can you help students see how your subject connects to real careers or industries?

Adult Work

- What real-world roles or responsibilities could students explore in your lesson?
- Are there decisions, processes, or problems they can engage with from an adult perspective?

Portfolio

- What can students create that they can save or showcase in the future?
- How can you design tasks that build a sense of progress over time?

Future

- How does this lesson connect to life after school, whether in college, a career, or daily living?
- How can you help students understand the long-term value of what they're learning?