Demonstrate your own curiosity
Today’s students urgently need to see thoughtfulness, curiosity, and resourcefulness in adults.

Learn with partners and pioneers
We can reach out to colleagues, principals, and parents about inquiry and get practical advice from pioneering inquiry schools.

Lean into a crisis
When crises happen in our classrooms, inquiry strategies can help kids cope, understand, and carry on.

Address curricular units with mini-inquiries
Curiosity empowers kids to build knowledge on topics they wouldn’t choose on their own.

Pursue kids’ questions with mini-inquiries
With student-driven inquiry, kids see the exciting process of “finding out”—and they fall in love with it.

Hang out with an expert
Kids learn authentic, reliable information from experts and witness what passionate, sustained curiosity looks like.

Check our news feed
The news stimulates inquiry projects of all sorts and sets children on a path to active, critical citizenship.

Begin the day with soft starts
If kids begin the morning by exercising their own curiosity, they are more responsible and curious all day long.

Capture and honor kids’ questions
To create a culture of questioning and investigation, we record students’ wonderings and track their pursuit of them.

Investigate ourselves and our classmates
If you want a curious, collaborative classroom, then you are in the friendship-creating business.

Smokey’s ladder of inquiry practices takes you from the simplest to the most sophisticated, gradually releasing more responsibility to your students for their own learning.

Watch students learn more deeply and independently than ever
Introduction
Welcome to Student-Directed Inquiry

Ideas from the introduction that pique my curiosity
**Inquiry Approach Versus Coverage Approach**

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<th>Inquiry Approach</th>
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**Consider**

When you look at the Inquiry Approach Versus Coverage Approach chart, where do you see your work?

**Try This**

*My “symptoms of curiosity”* (see page xxi)
Chapter 1

Demonstrate Your Own Curiosity

Questions and Ideas to Discuss with Colleagues
Try This

*My inquiry questions* (see page 6)
Chapter 2

Investigate Ourselves and Our Classmates

Questions and Ideas to Discuss with Colleagues

THE CURIOUS CLASSROOM Study Guide
Who I got to know . . . and what I learned (see page 24)
Chapter 3

Capture and Honor Kids’ Questions

Questions and Ideas to Discuss with Colleagues
My curiosity “itches” (see page 45)
Chapter 4
Begin the Day with Soft Starts

Questions and Ideas to Discuss with Colleagues
How did your childhood schooldays begin? (see pages 60–61)
Chapter 5

Check Our News Feed

Questions and Ideas to Discuss with Colleagues

Every morning I wake up and wonder, “What’s in the news today?”

“Ask kids the same question.”

Remember: Kids are Webcams.

“In Santa Fe, my 6th grade classroom.”

“Follow the Smokeys Story About Kids’ Inquiry Projects and Current News Ticker.”

“Every morning I wake up and wonder, ‘What’s in the news today?’”

“Check our news feed.”

“Among the strongest sparks for kids’ inquiry projects and current news items...”

“Set up a news ticker.”

“Remember: Kids are curios.”

“Ask the kids.”

“Every morning I wake up and wonder, ‘What’s in the news today?’”

“Among the strongest sparks for kids’ inquiry projects and current news items...”

“Set up a news ticker.”

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“Every morning I wake up and wonder, ‘What’s in the news today?’”

“Among the strongest sparks for kids’ inquiry projects and current news items...”

“Set up a news ticker.”

“Remember: Kids are curios.”

“Ask the kids.”
Kids I Thought of as I Read

Try This

My typical daily news sources *(see pages 81–82)*
Chapter 6
Hang Out with an Expert

Questions and Ideas to Discuss with Colleagues

- Skype...Facetime...Google Hangout
- Author Interviews are unforgettable.
- Because Teachers can’t know it all!
- Hang out with an Expert
- Visit the Grippo Potato Chip Factory
- Classrooms close to school
- Cincinnati’s Music Hall
- An artist from the University of Cincinnati
- Gavin’s dad who worked for the Rumpke Trash Co.
- ‘Uncle Al’, local TV
- Red Letter Days I remember...
- Kids need exposure to passionate specialists
- Professional Development
- Because teachers can’t know it all!
- Skype...Facetime...Google Hangout
- Interesting idea
- Coach the Experts before they interact with kids!
My most memorable days, field trips, and expert visits in elementary school
(see page 101)
Chapter 7
Pursue Kids’ Own Questions with Mini-Inquiries

Questions and Ideas to Discuss with Colleagues
I want to try!

My wonder . . . and what I learned about it (see page 122)
Chapter 8
Address Curricular Units with Mini-Inquiries

Questions and Ideas to Discuss with Colleagues
My “have to teach” unit . . . and the interesting/crazy/stunning/unexpected angle that I can use to hook the kids (see page 143)
Ideas I Want to Hold On To

Try This

My memories of a crisis in school (see page 155)
Questions and Ideas to Discuss with Colleagues
Aspects of Inquiry I’d Like to Learn More About with Others

I want to try!

Potential professional partners . . . and what we might try together (see pages 175–176)