

FIGURE 1. Integrating IDEAS Throughout the Curriculum

THINKING PROCESS	SAMPLE TASK STARTERS	QUESTIONS TO GUIDE STUDENT THINKING
Inquiry tasks use engaging questions to spark active, thoughtful investigations that lead to key insights and understandings.	 How can plants grow in places where people haven't planted them? Why did the Renaissance happen where and when it did? Why might sales of this specific menu item be so poor? In what ways do the arts both reflect and shape society? Is it possible for a disease to alter history? How? 	 What do I want to understand or explain? What questions or hypotheses will drive my inquiry? How will I conduct my investigation? What have I learned? Why is it important? What other questions does this raise?
Design challenges ask students to create or invent something that solves a problem, fulfills a need, or improves an existing product/design.	 Design a nature-inspired strategy to address a sustainability challenge. Design the most efficient computer program for executing this task. Design a fun, fast-paced board game that promotes math-fact fluency. Design a balanced, 15-minute fitness routine that hotel guests could do in their rooms without equipment. Redesign your story's opening to make it more engaging. 	 What want, need, or problem am I trying to address? What are the criteria for success? What ideas or options can I generate? How can I test/evaluate my ideas? Make them better? Which of my designs is best? Why?
Evaluation tasks ask students to evaluate items or individuals based on criteria and explain their thinking.	 What does it mean to be a friend? Is Frog a good friend to Toad? Which strategy is better for solving this kind of problem? Evaluate this list of potential inductees to the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Who most deserves to get in? Explain your criteria and decision. How well-written is this essay? Explain your criteria and decision. Evaluate which of these inventions had the greatest impact on society. 	 What am I being asked to evaluate? What criteria was I given or should I consider? How did I use the criteria to guide my evaluation? What did I conclude and why?
Argument tasks invite students to (1) take and defend a position on a debatable issue and/or (2) critique the arguments of others.	 Was the U.S. Civil War inevitable? Could it happen again? Is nuclear energy more helpful or harmful? Was the school board right to ban <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i>? Should people be allowed to say anything on social media? Should schools require students to get a COVID vaccine? 	 What is the issue? What are the different sides or positions? What is my position or claim? Do I have strong reasons and evidence to support it? How can I rebut the opposite position?
Systems-analysis tasks require students to identify the parts in a system, analyze how they work together, and understand their importance to the system as a whole.	 What are the primary functions of the circulatory system? How do the parts of that system work together to achieve those functions? What might be the effect of increasing/decreasing the power of an entity (a branch or department) within a system of government? Pick a "machine" (e.g., bicycle, Ferris wheel). Identify its parts, explain how they work together, and tell what might happen if one part were missing or damaged. 	 What system am I exploring? What is its function? What are the parts of this system? How do the parts work together or affect each other? How might removing or changing a part affect the system as a whole?

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