## Rigorous Instruction Look-Fors

## WHAT DOES RIGOROUS INSTRUCTION LOOK LIKE?

- Cognitive dissonance that challenges and stretches thinking
- Provocativeness of content and process
- Ambiguity of context and process
- Complexity of thinking
- Emotional engagement of students
- Open-ended assignments
- Enrichment options to extend learning
- High level probing questioning
- Rich and relevant content
- Multiple sources of rich content
- Focus on issues and big ideas
- Emphasis on depth, not coverage
- Teacher as facilitator
- Relevant students-to-student talk
- Opportunities for student choice
- Persuasive opportunities
- Authentic products and tasks



- Critical thinking opportunities such as:
  - Making Inferences
  - Considering alternative perspectives
  - Justifying and supporting assertions
  - Analyzing
  - Evaluating
  - Synthesizing
- Reflection time
- Ongoing assessment
- Flexible grouping to provide acceleration
- Scaffolding
- Well-managed classroom environment that empowers students

"Within every child's brain is a mind teeming with ideas and dreams and abilities unrealized. The greatest thing we can do as parents, teachers and friends — is to nourish that potential, both intellectual and humanitarian, so that each mind can fulfill its promise to the benefit of mankind."

- Dr. Ben Carson

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