

Differentiating Issues, Problems, And Projects

Grade Level: All
Time: 45 minutes

Objectives:

- Define and differentiate issues, problems, and projects.
- Understand the complexity and interconnectedness of issues and problems.
- Brainstorm different issues, problems and projects.

Curricular Connections: Civics, Language Arts

Materials: None

Procedure:

- 1) Draw three columns on the board with the headings “issue”, “problem”, and “project”. Ask students what comes to mind when they think of these words or how they would define them. Write key words in the appropriate column.
- 2) Once working definitions are established, erase the responses and ask the class to think of an issue or problem that effects them.
- 3) Debate whether responses are in fact issues, problems, or projects (some things can be considered both issues and problems.)
- 4) Start asking questions to move the class between columns until there are several ideas of projects for each problem. If this is the solution, what is the problem? What are the problems associated with this issue?
- 5) The end result will be three lists of related issues and problems that can be researched and discussed, as well as ideas for future projects.

Reflection:

- Students discuss differences between issues, problems, and projects.

Assessment:

1. Discussion to gauge ability to distinguish between issues, problems, and projects

Source: Roudy Hildreth