Inquiry Chart (I-Chart)

ABOUT THE STRATEGY

The INQUIRY CHART (I-CHART) is a graphic organizer that allows students to gather information about a topic from several sources. Teachers design the I-chart around several questions about a topic. Students read or listen to several sources on the topic and record answers to the posed questions within the I-chart. Different answers from various perspectives can be explored as a class. It is used during and after reading texts. This strategy helps students integrate ideas from several sources.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE STRATEGY

- Establish the purpose of the I-Chart.
- Provide students with a blank I-Chart and assist students with a topic selection or provide the pre-selected topic.
- Engage students in forming questions about the topics. Place those questions at the top of each individual column.
- Record any information students already know in the next row.
- Record each source and the key ideas pulled from the sources in the rows.
- Record any questions that you have about the information in the last column (e.g., something that is confusing, missing, or conflicting).

MEASURING PROGRESS

- Teacher observation
- Conferring
- Graphic organizer post-reading as assessment

RESEARCH

Dexter, D. D., & Hughes, C. (2011). Graphic organizers and students with learning disabilities: A meta-analysis. *Learning Disability Quarterly, 34*, 51-72.

Hoffman, J. (1992). Critical reading/thinking across the curriculum: Using I-charts to support learning. *Language Arts*, 69(2), p. 121-27.

Kim, A., Vaughn, S., Wanzek, J., & Wei, S. (2008). Graphic organizers and their effects on the reading comprehension of students with LD: A synthesis of research. *Journal of Learning Disabilities, 37*(2), 105-118.

Little, D. C., & Box, J. A. (2011). The use of a specific schema theory strategy-semantic mapping to facilitate vocabulary development and comprehension for at-risk reader. *Reading Improvement, 48*(1), 24-31.

Name: _____

Inquiry Chart (I-Chart)

- -

Select a topic for inquiry. Form questions about the topic. Place those questions at the top of each individual column. Record any information you already know in the next row. Record each source and the key ideas pulled from the sources in the rows. Record any questions that you have about the information (e.g., something that is confusing, missing, or conflicting).

Topic	Question 1	Question 2	Question 3	What questions do I have?
What do I already know?				
Source 1				
Source 2				
Source 3				
Source 4				