**Visual Thinking Strategy (VTS) One-Pager**

What is VTS?

* VTS uses Art and/or visual text to teach visual literacy, critical thinking, and communication.
* Learning is stimulated by:
  + Looking at visual text of increasing complexity.
  + Answering developmentally based questions.
  + Participating in teacher facilitated, peer group discussions.

What are the 3 Questions and their phrasing?

* What is going on in this picture? *This question encourages students to make a narrative of the picture.*
* What do you see that makes you say that? *This question makes students provide evidence of their thinking.*
* What more can we find? *This question opens to the discussion for others in the class.*
* It is important to phrase the questions exactly as written. For example, “What ***MORE*** can we find” not, “What ***ELSE*** can we find.”

What does a VTS lesson look like?

* Display a relevant, interesting visual text for the class.
* “What is going on in this picture?”
* Allow students to respond. Point to and paraphrase what they say.
* “What do you see that makes you say that?”
* Allow students to respond. Point to and paraphrase what they say.
* Connect areas of agreement/disagreement and emerging points/topics, etc.
* “What more can we find?”
* Repeat as needed

What are practical applications of VTS?

* Anticipatory or previewing activity
* Bell ringer
* Lead-in for a text based primary source activity
* Historical photograph, political cartoon, Art, or other visual text discussion
* Short-answer prompt
* Fun change-up

What were the images from the presentation?

* The Gulf Stream, Winslow Homer, 1906
* Oath of the Horatii, Jacques-Louis David, 1784
* New Apartment Provided by the State, Soviet Union, 1952
* Grissom and Young, Norman Rockwell, 1962
* Trolley, New Orleans, from *The Americans,* Robert Frank, 1958
* Covered Car, Long Beach California, from *The Americans,* Robert Frank, 1958

Where can I get more information?

* Visual Thinking Strategies: Using Art to deepen learning across school disciplines, Phillip Yenawine, 2014
  + $30 on Amazon, Chapters 1 and 2 are the most important
* Visual Thinking Strategy website
  + www.vtshome.org

Who was the presenter?

* Adam Klaskow

Curriculum Specialist, Pinellas Gulf Coast Academy

klaskowa@pcsb.org