

SNAP SHOTS™

Critical Thinking
Photo Cards



Think beyond the photo!



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Set of 40 double-sided cards:

- Wonderful real-life photos (8" x 8") on the front
- 4 Thought-provoking questions related to the photo on the reverse

Critical thinking meets visual literacy in this brain-teasing, eye-sharpening card set that proves there is always more than meets the eye in the images we see every day! Students learn to look at the big picture with 40 real-life photos and accompanying context questions that teach them how to investigate complex ideas (e.g., cause and effect) and reach satisfying, reason-based conclusions. These are also great for observing, predicting, and making inferences. The search for meaning has never been so natural—or this much fun!

Suggested Uses:

- **Open Inquiry**—Hold up or display a card in the front of the classroom and discuss the picture. Then, ask questions from the reverse side of the card. Encourage students to elaborate on their answers—don't accept a simple *yes* or *no*. If students take their responses beyond predicted answers, tap into their imaginations and direct them to other paths of inquiry. An open discussion that incorporates new topics is rife with teachable moments!
- **Group Study**—Put students in a center to work in small groups as they discuss the pictures together. Have students alternate reading and answering the questions.
- **Mystery Snapshot**—Select a photo card. Without showing the picture to students, provide several clues to the events depicted in the image. Instruct students to formulate guesses silently based on your clues. Then, reveal the image. Discuss with students what they thought the image would be, and the similarities and differences between their guesses and the actual image.
- **Vocabulary**—Select a card. Point to different components of the picture. Call on volunteers to name the objects you point to and provide brief definitions. Write students' answers on the board to create a glossary that will help them in thinking about the images.
- **Context Collage**—Hold up one of the photo cards for all to see. Conduct an open discussion about what's happening in the picture. Then, ask students to draw a picture that puts the event in the context of their own lives and include an explanatory "caption" (a sentence or short paragraph) underneath. For instance, if you display the picture of the birthday party, students can draw a picture of how they spent a recent birthday. Invite students to discuss their drawings if they're comfortable doing so.
- **Storytelling**—Display four different photo cards and assign each a number 1–4. Divide the class into an equal amount of students for each numbered group. Instruct teams to work together to write a short story telling what happened both before and after their picture was taken. Afterward, have each team designate a reader to read the story to the class. For variation, perform this activity with individual students who will each write about the same picture.



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