**Thinking Moves:**

**Essential Steps in Developing Deep Understanding**

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| **Thinking Moves** | **Observable Thinking Behaviours** | **Questions to Drive Thinking** |
| Observing closely and describing what’s there | * Notice parts and features
* Take detailed notes to record observations
* Describe parts and features in detail
 | * What do you see and notice?
 |
| Making connections | * Connect new information with what’s known
* Identify patterns and perspectives
* Identify areas of agreement and disagreement between sources
 | * How does this fit?
 |
| Wondering and asking questions | * Imagine possible connections and implications
* Relate ideas to emotions and values
* Create questions to propel further inquiry
 | * What am I curious about here?
 |
| Building explanations and interpretations | * Examine similarities and differences
* Hypothesize and test ideas
* Apply theories to explain phenomenon
 | * What’s going on here?
 |
| Reasoning with evidence | * Search for evidence to support claims
* Check for validity and soundness
* Verify sufficiency of detail to support claims
 | * Why do you think so?
 |
| Uncovering complexity and going below the surface  | * Identify and reject simplistic explanations
* Search for alternative evidence and explanations
* Examine all parts of issues to explore complexity
* Search for deep causes
 | * What lies beneath the surface of this?
 |
| Considering different viewpoints and perspectives | * Search for alternative explanations
* Evaluate the evidence of opposing perspectives
* Self-assess and revise own arguments in light of alternative explanations and evidence
 | * What’s another angle on this?
 |
| Capturing the heart and forming conclusions | * Capturing the essence of a concept
* Forming a reasoned judgement based on foregoing thinking
 | * What’s at the core or centre of this?
 |

**NOTE: Thinking for Deep Understanding is NOT a linear process—it is recursive! There are logical steps, but they usually need to be repeated multiple times, often in different orders, to really dig down deep into complex concepts. Thinking for Deep Understanding is rarely easy and orderly; it’s usually difficult and messy at first, which is all the more reason to develop detailed, organized notes.**

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| **Thinking Moves** | **Observable Thinking Behaviours** | **Actions that Demonstrate Deep Thinking** |
| Observing closely and describing what’s there | * Notice parts and features
* Take detailed notes to record observations
* Describe parts and features in detail
 |  |
| Making connections | * Connect new information with what’s known
* Identify patterns and perspectives
* Identify areas of agreement and disagreement between sources
 |  |
| Wondering and asking questions | * Imagine possible connections and implications
* Relate ideas to emotions and values
* Create questions to propel further inquiry
 |  |
| Building explanations and interpretations | * Examine similarities and differences
* Hypothesize and test ideas
* Summarize the main idea
 |  |
| Reasoning with evidence | * Search for evidence to support claims
* Check for validity and soundness
* Verify sufficiency of detail to support claims
 |  |
| Uncovering complexity and going below the surface  | * Identify and reject simplistic explanations
* Search for alternative evidence and explanations
* Examine all parts of issues to explore complexity
* Search for deep causes
 |  |
| Considering different viewpoints and perspectives | * Search for alternative explanations
* Evaluate the evidence of opposing perspectives
* Self-assess and revise own arguments in light of alternative viewpoints
 |  |
| Capturing the heart and forming conclusions | * Capturing the essence of a concept
* Forming a reasoned judgement based on foregoing thinking
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