

Ideas for Social and Historical Thinking

- Choose something in the world that bothers you. Examples are: poverty, racism, bullying, stereotypes, etc. Describe the problem, and come up with a solution for the problem. Maybe figure out a way to raise awareness amongst others about this problem. If possible, put your solution into action.
- Choose an object that you're interested in and research its history. When was it first invented? Who invented it? How has it changed over time?
- Create your own world, city or government. It could be an ideal world where everything is perfect, or a nightmare world, or something in between. Explain why you choose to design it as you did. To go deeper, compare your created world/city/government to a real one that exists today or existed in the past.
- Compare two different countries in the world, or two different time periods. How is life different? What is the same? How is society organized and how do people live? Which one would you rather live in?
- Read a story about someone who lived a long time ago. It could be a real-life account or historical fiction. If it's fiction, find out what parts of the story were based on fact and which were made up.
- Choose someone who you admire and find out about their past and their personal identity. What made them who they are? Why do you think they are significant?
- Create a guidebook to a place (real or imagined) explaining everything you think visitors should know.
- Interview someone who is older or from another place. Find out what their life has been like.
- Choose any contemporary issue or current event and trace its history back as far as you can.
- Create an artistic representation of another culture or time period.
- If you are making/writing a film or story, find out about the history of one of the settings or create a history for one of the characters. Imagine what their family tree was like and where their ancestors are from.
- What do you care about in the world? What would you like to see different? Explain what it is and why you think it should change.