

## **Strategy: The Frame**

**Brief Description:** This is used as an extension of or a primer for any thinking/learning experience. It represents our overlapping personal and cultural experiences, values and belief systems. These multiple background frames give reference to and guide thinking, feelings and judgments.

**Overview:** Students are asked to draw a "frame" (around a particular evidence of learning or simply the frame itself). The frame supports dialogue and discussion of different points of view within the context of differing life and learning experiences.

**Skills Addressed:** Point of View, Metacognition, and Self -Assessment

**Steps:** 1) Students participate in a learning experience and document their learning in some way (generating evidence of learning)

- 2) Students draw a frame around the evidence of their learning.
- 3) In the space representing the frame, students write information that shows the influence of background experience on their thinking
- 4) Possible questions for soliciting information for the frame:
  - Where did you get this information?
  - What prior knowledge and experiences influence your view?
  - What are the cultural influences on your perspective?
  - What are the belief systems which may influence your perspective?
  - How have you organized and learned this information?
- 5) The student completes the frame according to the prompts that the teacher provides, which are determined by his or her purpose for the lesson.

**Related Learning Principles:** Thinking is heavily influenced by "frames". Students bring their culture (whatever is meaningful and relevant to them) to every learning experience they have. Helping them to analyze the factors that influence their thinking/points of view is helping them to unlock their capacity to learn.