



Why Ask Why?  
Shannon Motsco and  
Mary Rathlev

---

Anne Arundel County Public Schools  
Annapolis, MD

**“I suggest there are only two good reasons to ask questions in class: to cause thinking and to provide information to the teacher about what to do next.” (Dylan William)**

---



# Cell Phone Line Up

- Take out your cell phone.
- Think of your last two digits of your cell phone number.
- Line up from Least (Right)- to the Greatest (Left)
- Now share a picture with your shoulder partner.



# Daily Learning Intentions

*Today, participants will leave with...*

...an understanding of how to develop questions using the

---

- sorting activity when introducing a new concept.
- task anticipation guide along with the depth and complexity icons or the question matrix when assigning a task.

# Domain- RP

1

Glance over the 6<sup>th</sup>  
and 7<sup>th</sup> grade  
standards provided  
to you

2

On separate sticky notes  
or cards, script some  
typical questions you  
might ask about when  
working in ratio and  
proportional reasoning.

3

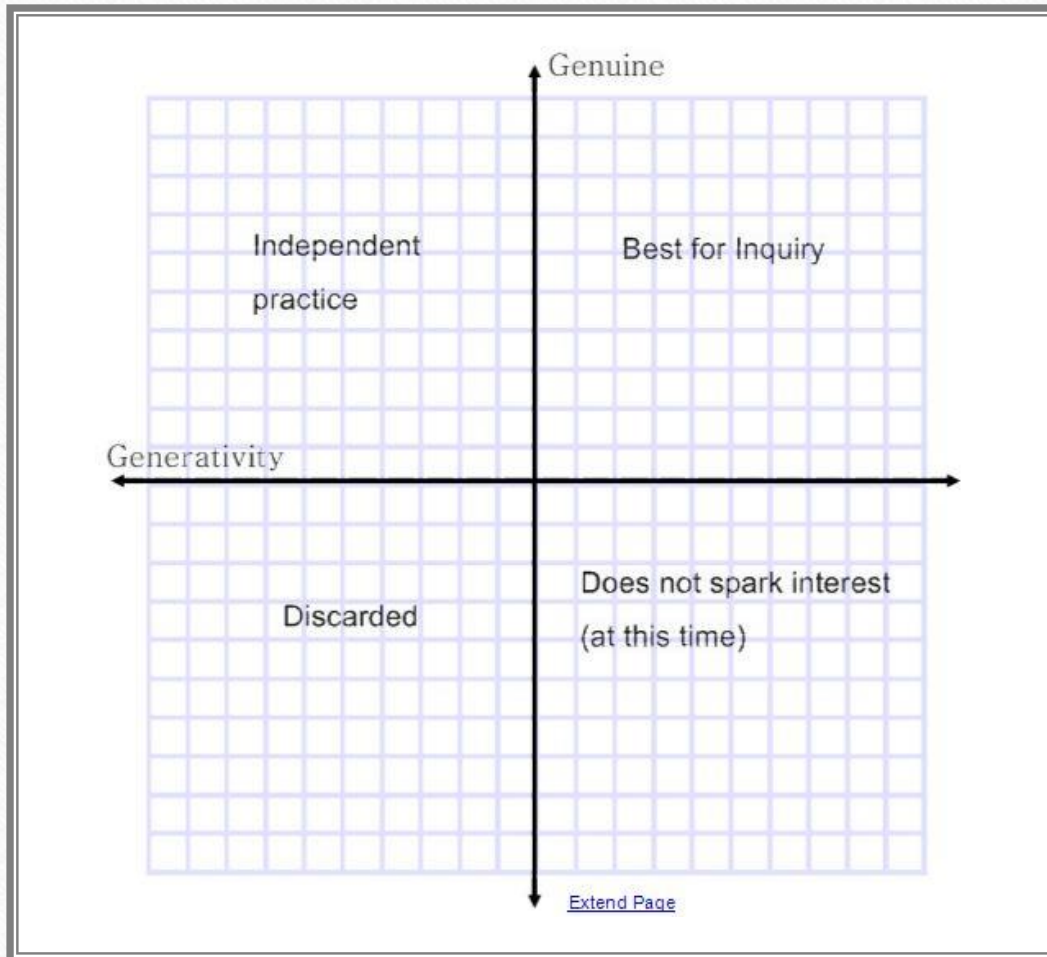
How we use this...

## Question Sort

Now, use the horizontal continuum on the chart paper. This horizontal axis will represent generativity, that is, how likely will the question generate conceptual understanding among students. As a group, discuss and place each question on the continuum.

## Question Sort

Use the vertical continuum intersecting the horizontal axis on the chart paper. This line represents how genuine, that is, how much will the students care about investigating the question. As a group, discuss and place each question by moving the post-it note up or down the continuum.



# Coordinate Plane

---

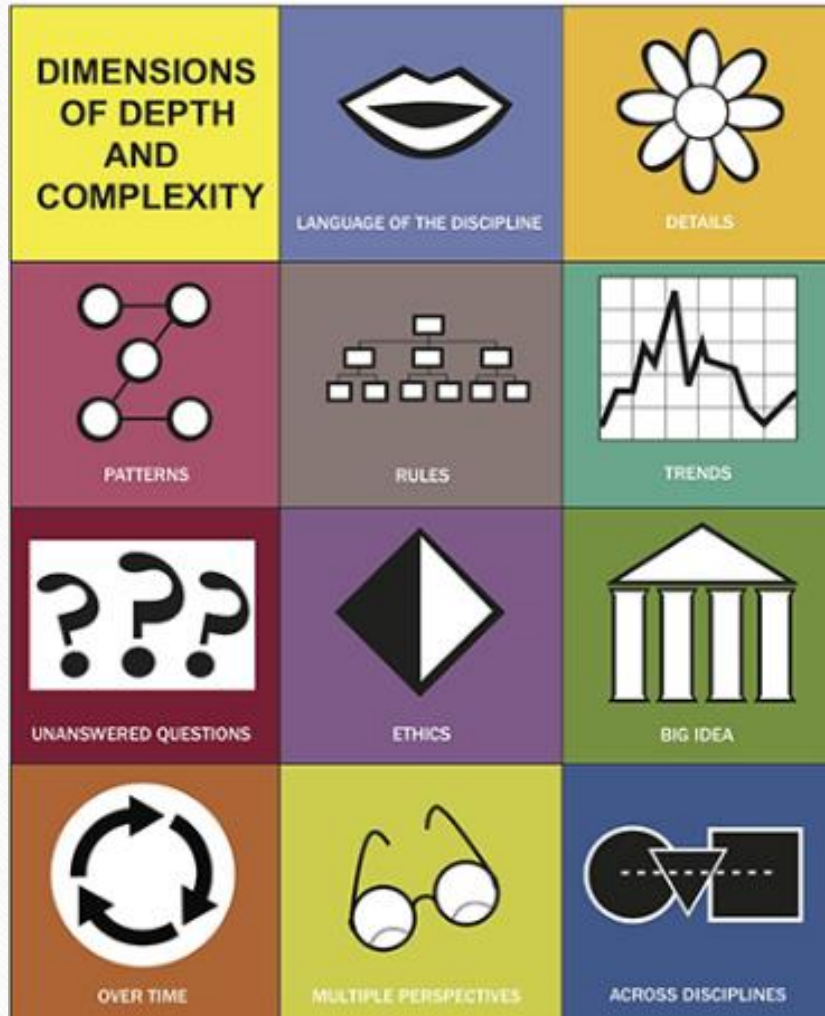
How could you use this strategy in collaborative planning?

# Popcorn Anyone?

---



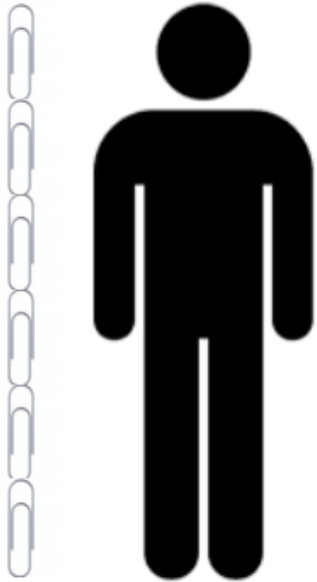
- Today in school students will learn about popcorn.
- Write down two questions you might ask your students to get them to begin thinking about popcorn.



# Depth and Complexity Icons

---

# Mr. Tall and Mr. Short Task



When Mr. Short is measured in paper clips, he is 6 paper clips tall. When he is measured in buttons, he is 4 buttons tall.

Mr. Short has a friend named Mr. Tall. When Mr. Tall is measured in buttons, he is 6 buttons tall.

- How many paper clips tall is Mr. Tall?



# Anticipation Guide

---

Solve in as many ways as possible.

Where will students show success?

Where will students struggle?

(a)

I went  $6+2$  because  
with the match sticks  
Mr. Short is 4 and Mr. Tall  
is 6 So I  
added 2

Answer:  
8

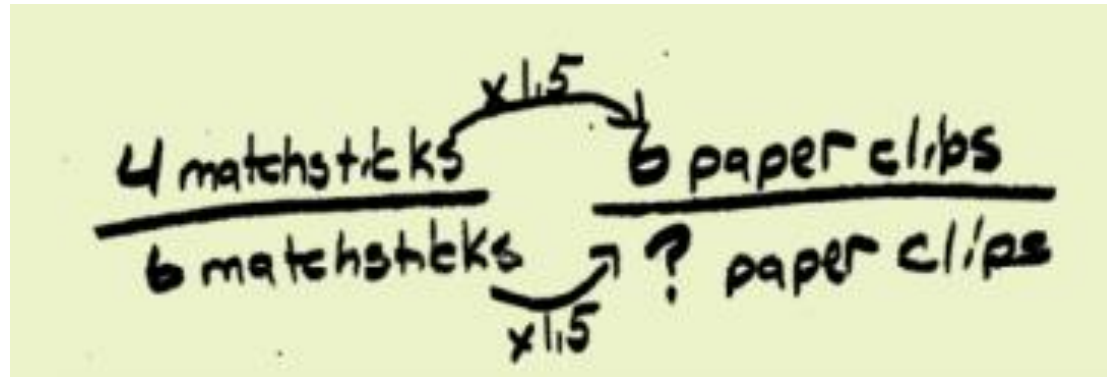
(b)

# Examples

---

# Examples

---



## Examples

---

| Paperdips      | Match sticks |
|----------------|--------------|
| 6              | 4            |
| $1\frac{1}{2}$ | 1            |
| $6\frac{6}{2}$ | 6            |
| 9              | 6            |

$$\frac{6}{4}$$

$1\frac{1}{2}$

Answer:  
9 paperdips

# Examples

---

$$4 + b + b = \textcircled{16}$$

(a)

$$\begin{array}{r} 6 \\ \times 4 \\ \hline 24 \end{array}$$

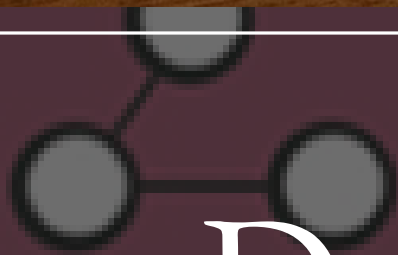
(b)

$$6 - 4 = 2$$

$$6 \times 2 = \underline{12}$$

(c)

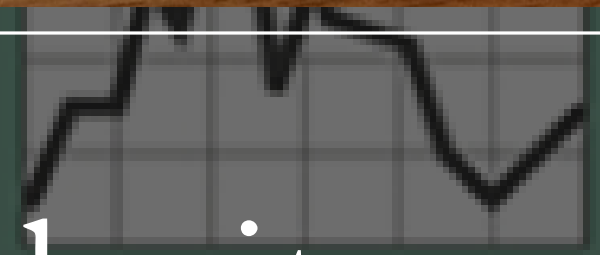
# Depth and Complexity Icons Revisited



PATTERNS



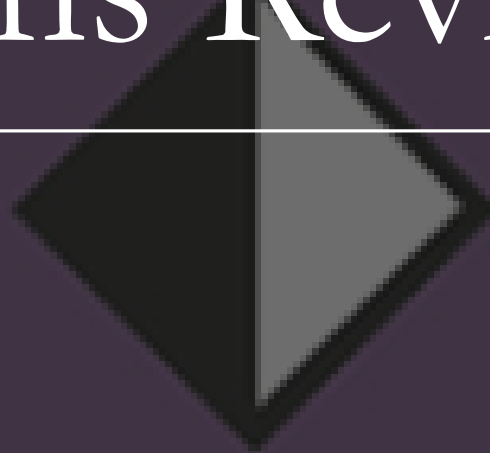
RULES



TRENDS



UNANSWERED QUESTIONS



ETHICS



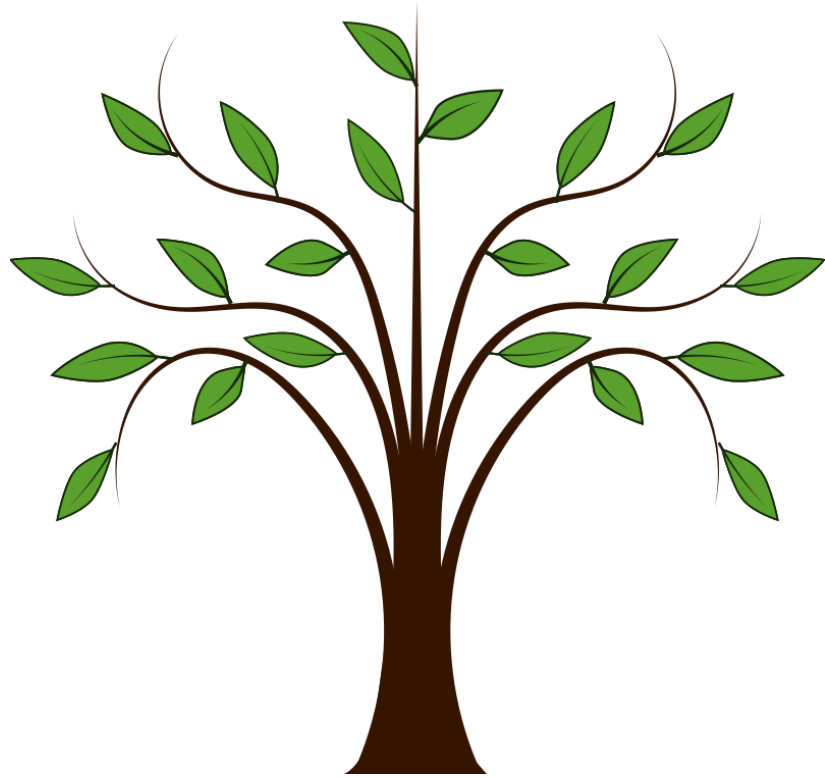
BIG IDEA

# Pruning Trees Task

---

It takes Keith 45 minutes to prune a tree. It takes Richard 70 minutes to a prune a tree. They form a company and agree to prune 92 trees.

- If they both work at the same time and at constant rates, how long will it take them to prune all 92 trees?
- How many trees will each have pruned?



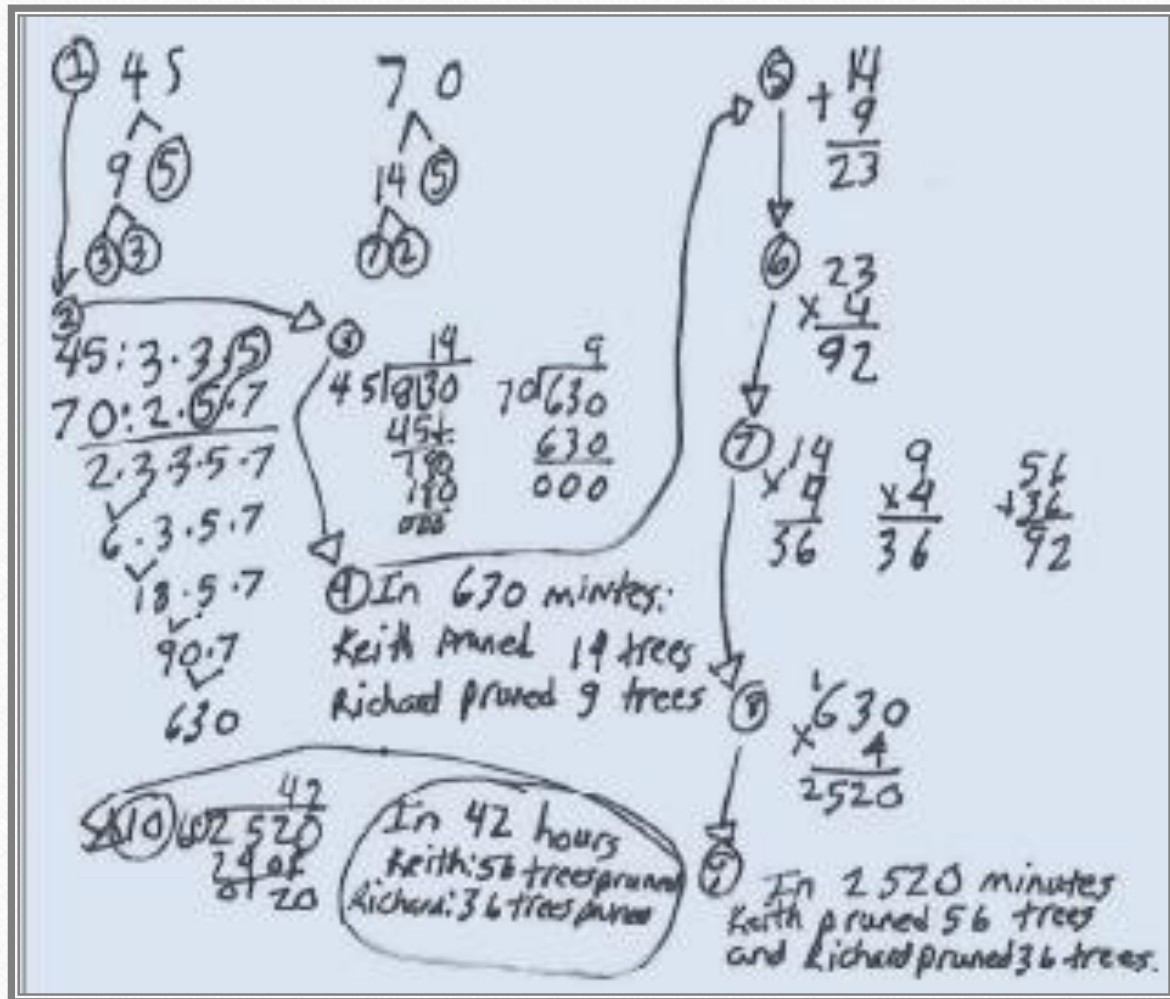
# Anticipation Guide

---

Solve in as many ways as possible.

Where will students show success?

Where will students struggle?



## Examples

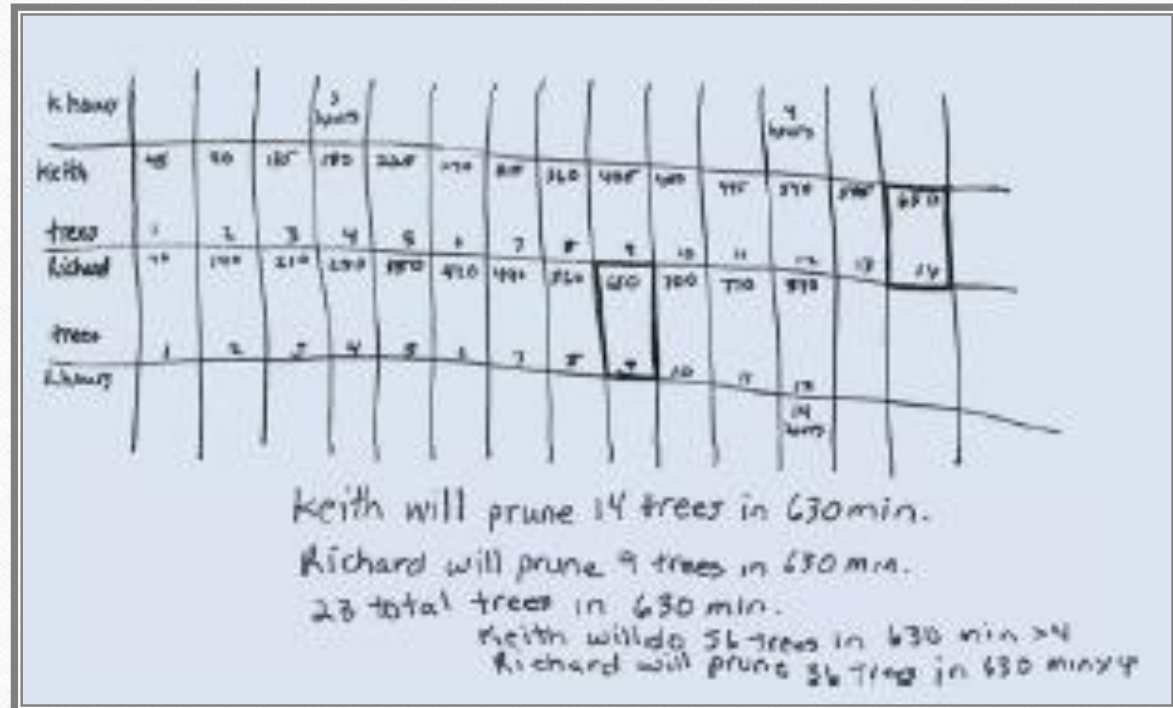
---

Keith: 45 min, 1 tree

Richard: 70 min, 1 tree

| Keith    |         | Richard |         |
|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1 tree   | 45 min  | 1 tree  | 70 min  |
| 2 trees  | 90 min  | 2 trees | 140 min |
| 3 trees  | 135 min | 3 trees | 210 min |
| 4 trees  | 180 min | 4 trees | 280 min |
| 5 trees  | 225 min | 5 trees | 350 min |
| 6 trees  | 270 min | 6 trees | 420 min |
| 7 trees  | 315 min | 7 trees | 490 min |
| 8 trees  | 360 min | 2 trees | 560 min |
| 9 trees  | 405 min | 9 trees | 630 min |
| 10 trees | 450 min |         |         |
| 11 trees | 495 min |         |         |
| 12 trees | 540 min |         |         |
| 13 trees | 585 min |         |         |
| 14 trees | 630 min |         |         |

## Examples



## Examples

---

Richard can cut  $60/70$  or  $6/7$  of a tree in an hour.

Keith can cut  $60/45$  or  $4/3$  trees in an hour.

Together, they can prune  $6/7 + 4/3$  trees in an hour.

By using common denominators, they can cut  $18/21 + 28/21$  which equals  $46/21$  trees per hour.

In order to cut 92 trees it will take them 92 divided by  $46/21$ .

$92/1 \times 21/46 = 1932/46$  or 42 hours to prune all trees

Then Keith prunes  $4/3$  trees/hour  $\times$  42 hours or  $168/3$  trees which is 56 trees.

And, Richard prunes  $6/7$  trees/hour  $\times$  42 hours or  $252/7$  which is 36 trees.

## Examples

| Hours               | Keith      | Richard   | Running Total |
|---------------------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| 10h                 | 13.5 Trees | 8.4 Trees | 21.9 Trees    |
| 10h                 | 13.5 T     | 8.4 T     | 43.8 T        |
| 10h                 | 13.5 T     | 8.4 T     | 65.7 T        |
| 10h                 | 13.5 T     | 8.4 T     | 87.6 T        |
| 2h                  | 2.3 T      | 1.5 T     | 41.4 T        |
| $\frac{1}{2}$ h     | 0.6 T      | 0.4 T     | 92.3 T        |
| $42\frac{1}{2}$ hrs | 56.9 T     | 35.5 T    |               |

$30 \div 45 = 0.6$  - Keith  
 $30 \div 70 = 0.4$  - Richard  
 $120 \div 70 = 1.5$  - Richard  
 $10 \text{ h} \times 60 \text{ mins} = 120 \text{ mins}$   
 $600 \div 45 = 13.5$  - Keith  
 $2 \text{ h} \times 60 = 120$   
 $120 \div 45 = 2.3$  - Keith  
 $600 \div 70 = 8.4$  - Richard

$K = 45 \text{ mins} = \frac{3}{4} \text{ of an hr}$   
 $R = 70 \text{ mins} = \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3} = 1\frac{1}{6} = 1 \text{ hr } 10 \text{ mins}$

(b)

**QUESTION MATRIX – Chuck Wiederhold**

|                    | <b>Event</b> | <b>Situation</b>     | <b>Choice</b> | <b>Person</b> | <b>Reason</b> | <b>Means</b> |
|--------------------|--------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>Present</b>     | What is?     | Where<br>When is?    | Which did?    | Who is?       | Why is?       | How is?      |
| <b>Past</b>        | What did?    | Where<br>When did?   | Which did?    | Who did?      | Why did?      | How did?     |
| <b>Possibility</b> | What can?    | Where<br>When can?   | Which can?    | Who can?      | Why can?      | How can?     |
| <b>Probability</b> | What would?  | Where<br>When would? | Which would?  | Who would?    | Why would?    | How would?   |
| <b>Prediction</b>  | What will?   | Where<br>When will?  | Which will?   | Who will?     | Why will?     | How will?    |
| <b>Imagination</b> | What might?  | Where<br>When might? | Which might?  | Who might?    | Why might?    | How might?   |

# PADLET-PHONE

## *Reflection*

---

Leave us a note and record ONE word that best illustrates your learning from today.

Also if you have a question please post here.

<https://padlet.com/smotsco/nctm2018>

