

Creating Essential Questions: Begin at THE Source—The Course Description

- 1) Working in small content-area groups, select a Course Description to use from those available.
- 2) Identify the key words and/or phrases in the opening paragraph and note(s) that indicate the overarching purposes of the Course.
- 3) Find key words and phrases in the benchmarks and standards.

Time now to go from general to more specific...

- 1) What *Learning Goals* should this Course focus on?
- 2) Brainstorm a bevy of brainteasers –
balk at NONE until you're DONE!
- 3) NOW, begin to consider them again. Which are too specific?
Which ones “hook and hold?”
- 4) Which puzzlers connect to the *Learning Goals* your considered for this Course Description?
- 5) Which questions touch on most or all of the benchmarks and standards?
- 6) Select one question and write it in age-friendly language.

