

# BUG LIST

If you are interested in having your students develop and identify their own problems or issues to investigate, one sure fire way to help scaffold this is to have them create and keep a “bug list”.

- 1) Give students a notebook and a pen or pencil to carry around with them throughout the day (this could be both at school and at home)
- 2) Have students jot down notes every time they encounter something that “bugs” them. The line for lunch is too long? Put it in the notebook. A piece of equipment does not function as it should? Put it in the notebook. They wonder why they have to do something or how something could work better? Put it in the notebook.
- 3) After a while students should come across a myriad of issues that “bug” them and that could make great issues to investigate and hopefully solve.

While this strategy could be used in general with students, it could also be used to investigate a specific driving question. For example, if students were exploring the driving question, “How can we make our school safer for everyone?” a bug list would be a great way for students to identify potential areas to explore.

