

## Curiosity Quest Question Refinement Journal Entry 4/4/05

On the left hand side of your paper, at the top, write your CQ Essential Question.

Right under the question, draw a line down the middle of the page that creates two columns.

In the Left Hand Column, list three new versions of your essential question, with each version becoming more specific – getting smaller as it were. Rewrite your essential question three different ways, with each way becoming even more specific and focused in on one smaller aspect of what you have studied. You might title this column “Getting Smaller.”

In the Right Hand Column, you guessed it, you might title the column “Getting Bigger.” In this column, rewrite your essential question three times, with each rewrite making your question broader, covering more areas and ideas associated with your subject.

It might look something like this:

Essential Question: Will there be peace on earth?

Getting Smaller	Getting Bigger
How do we create a more peaceful America?	What is peace, and how might it look across the globe?
What might be done to stop violence in our schools?	Is all you need, love?
In what ways can a person learn to live a peaceful life in a world that is sometimes violent?	Is the universe a friendly place?

On the right side page next to your recording of the data, select ONE of your refined questions. It can be from either the “Getting Smaller” column, or the “Getting Bigger” column. Write your refined question at the top of the page.

Beneath your new refined question, write an essay that describes why you selected the new refined question, and what your plan for researching it is for the remainder of the school year.

Keep in mind that you will have to do two things at the end of the year: write a multi-genre research paper, using many different kinds of writing to demonstrate your expertise in your field of study; and you will have to create a final product, something that brings your research into the real world. You can use your imagination of what that might be – art, architecture, inventing, performance....

Your essay must be at least both sides of the right hand side page, front and back. You must be as detailed as you can. You might want to refer to your Envisioning journal entry. You can make lists of things that you will have to study, or lists of questions that still need to be answered to come to a conclusion about your refined essential question.

Good luck.