

The Questioning Me...

Is it possible to learn without questioning?

Are any answers final or do all answers bring up more questions?

Are any questions unanswerable?

“Everything has been thought of before, the problem is to think of it again.”

Socrates (may be paraphrased; I’m writing from memory...questioning my memory☺)

“I’d rather know some of the questions than all of the answers.”

James Thurber, humorist.

Read his *Fables for Our Times* books

Study the classic Hidden Star puzzle by Sam Loyd.

Can you find the perfect star?

(NB: *Google Star Puzzle for even more challenging ones*) What questions do you need to ask as you look? Read directions to the right below.

Neruda’s poem shows what wonderful lines can emerge from questions.

Try a questioning poem.

Also find and read Padgett Powell’s book, *The Interrogative Mood*; it’s only questions.

What Is It That Upsets Volcanoes

By Pablo Neruda

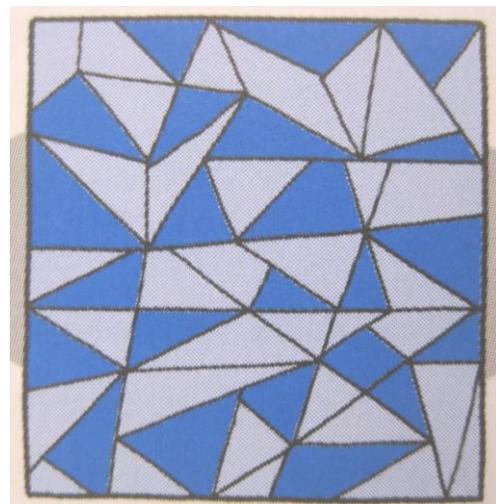
***What is it that upsets the volcanoes
that spit fire, cold and rage?***

***Why wasn’t Christopher Columbus
able to discover Spain?***

How many questions does a cat have?

***Do tears not yet spilled
wait in small lakes?***

***Or are they invisible rivers
that run toward sadness?***



Questioning Me

After a few minutes of looking, do you think asking some questions might help? Asking pertinent, good questions can lead you to answers. So can listening to other questions and answers and using your learning style (kinesthetic, auditory, visual) to aid you. Be aware of your feelings as you look, especially if it’s taking a long time and others are finding it before you do. How is this affecting your search? Your questioning?

After you have found the star, I’ll bet you will immediately locate it every time you look from now on. That’s the value in engaging in discovery! We will enjoy many more of these optical illusions, transformations, and visual puzzles during the next three years as we think and write and learn.

Now, for one of the items in your *Wanna Piece of Me*, brainstorm some questions you actually have. Frame them in *I wonder... What if... How come... Why do... When will... What happens if... or any other questioning stem that has crossed your mind. Please list questions you actually have. They can be deep or quirky or a mixture. Your questions should be a piece of you!*

After you have an array of questions, design them on an 8 ½ by 11 page in an eye-catching manner....thought bubbles, Information Please desks, a design, Swami mind reader, grab bag...whatever. Instead of a list, you could pull your questions together into a poem. I will share just a couple of student examples if it seems helpful.