



## Critical and Creative Thinking Strategy Plus- Minus- Interesting



### What is this Routine?

The PMI strategy encourages students to think about many possibilities, and to explore the positive and negative aspects of ideas or activities. PMI encourages students to develop the habit of looking beyond the polarity of “yes or no,” “wrong or right,” “my answer or your answer.” The goal of PMI is to develop independent thinkers who consider a range of ideas and/or possibilities and see beyond the obvious. The “interesting” category can also include questions. This strategy works well when discussing books, events, family trips, musical instruments or any other ideas that may be considered through the lens of pluses, minuses, and interesting aspects. For example, your child is trying to decide which musical instrument to play. Together you make a chart of the plus, minus, and interesting aspects of each instrument that they are considering. Often the interesting column leads to insights that will help them make a decision.

**Source:** FCPS Critical and Creative Thinking Website

### FCPS Video Explanation

Web Link:

<https://youtu.be/ktxujQ5aJos>

Or Use your Phone's Camera to  
scan here:



**SCAN ME**

## Family Listening Activity Using Podcasts!

Try listening to a kid friendly podcast together. It may be done while traveling in the car, doing chores, or even making dinner in the evening.

Afterward, use the sentence stems below to think deeply about what you liked, what didn't you like, and what was interesting!

## Resources

Tumble Science Podcast:

[Tumble Science Podcast for Kids on Apple Podcasts](#)

Storytime :

[Childrens stories](#)

Brains On:

[Brains On! Science podcast for kids on Apple Podcasts](#)

Peace Out:

<https://apple.co/3dypvj9>

## Questions to Support Plus-Minus-Interesting Conversations:

- What are the positive or good things?
- What are the negative or problem things?
- What are interesting ideas about \_\_\_\_?
- What is the value of \_\_\_\_?
- What would most people not know about \_\_\_\_?
- What questions do you have about \_\_\_\_?

TOPIC/CONCEPT:		
+ PLUS +	- MINUS -	! INTERESTING !
• • • • • • •	• • • • • • •	• • • • • • •
Why?	Why?	Why?

**Note:** Strong thinking routines encourage students to share Positive/Negative/Interesting information in equal amounts.