**WANTED: Expert Thinkers**

**Beginner Thinker:**
Observer, Recorder

- Follows directions to complete tasks
- Records observations
- Identifies facts
- Sees no patterns or connections
- Records as directed
- Tasking cooperatively is rationale.
- Meaning is not constructed
- May develop vocabulary for future use
- Traps the right answer

**Novice Thinker:**
Asks questions, wonders why

- Seeks answers
- Transfers facts
- Challenges thinks
- Understands basics, then asks questions
- Transfers meaning—doesn’t create new meaning.
- Big ideas still under construction
- Clusters related facts under a main idea Relying on short term recall
- Does not fully understand

**Augmenting Thinker:**
to build upon – to change

- Constructs meaning from text
- Uses big ideas and conceptual frameworks
- Connects prior knowledge
- Connects personal relevance
- Develops focus questions
- Seeks and uses information
- Builds arguments with evidence
- Evaluates quality of sources
- Incorporates multiple perspectives
- Understands the problem, issue
- Takes and supports a position
- Creates new meaning
- Draws conclusions
- Synthesizes seemingly unrelated facts into new knowledge
- Debates, interrogates, self-assesses
- Communicates reasonably, logically

**Transforming Thinker:**
Innovator and Expert

- Uses vocabulary of the discipline knowingly
- Understands relevant concepts deeply
- Understands big ideas
- Plans, strategically develops goals
- Gathers information, answers why
- Seeks to understand to solve
- Uses the known to solve the unknown
- Creates new meaning
- Pursues quality information
  - Continually assessing validity, bias, perspective, purpose, opposing ideas, and gaps
- Organizes new information by concepts
- Self-assesses
- Communicates with a clear point of view
- Improves

Mary Ratzer and Paige Jaeger – PD 2016