

A Step Inside: An Orientation to WAR IN MY LIFE

This activity is organized to help students empathize with the individuals in this gallery. As such, it provides a foundation for their examination of the context and background of these children and youth.

Purpose:

- To encourage perspective taking and an empathetic response;
- To teach students that one's perspective often shapes how events are understood; and
- To develop a better understanding of the complexity of a person or issue.

Steps:

1. **Choose a photo** to use with the class as you teach the students how to use this protocol. Record responses.
2. If your photo is not a portrait, ask, "*What can this person see, observe or notice?*"
3. Ask, "*What might the person know about, understand or believe?*" Make a list. Ask "*What makes you say that?*"
4. Ask, "*What might the person care about?*" "*Why do you say that?*"
5. Share the learning. Review the responses and ask, "*What image of this person is emerging?*"
6. Ask, "*What might this person wonder about or question?*" "*Why do you say that?*"
7. **Assign students a photo** from this collection, individually or in groups and direct them to repeat this process.
8. *Share the learning.*

Tips:

- Explore the meaning of the word *might*. The point is not to find a definitive answer but to generate reasonable possibilities based on evidence.

Source: The Step Inside protocol is found in Church, M, Morrison, K. & Ritchhart, R. (2011). *Making Thinking Visible: How to Promote Engagement, Understanding and Independence for All Learners*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.