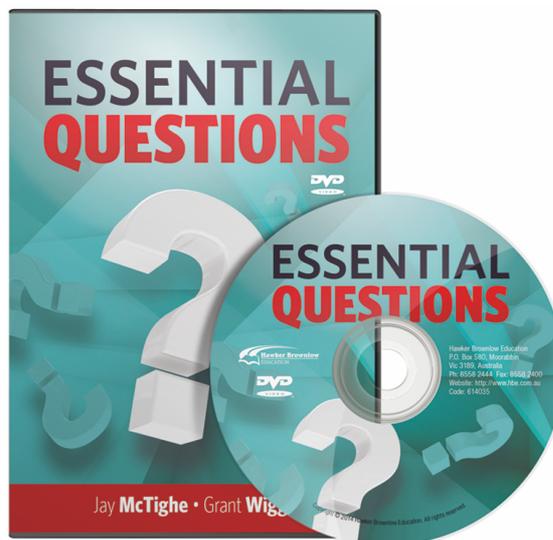


# Essential Questions DVD

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**Date Available:** 17 July 2014  
**ISBN:** 978 1 76001 348 6  
**Code/SKU:** 614035  
**RRP:** \$219.00  
**Format/Page No.:** Single-Disc DVD  
**Age Group:** Teachers and Administrators  
**Topic:** Assessment, Classroom Practice and Instruction, Curriculum, Inquiry Learning, Leadership  
**Learning Area:** Cross-Curricular



## Summary:

What are essential questions? How do they differ from other kinds of questions? What makes them so effective? And why should you design and use them in your classroom?

Teachers use a variety of question types in their instruction, but essential questions help organise curriculum content into coherent units that yield focused and thoughtful learning. In the classroom, teachers use essential questions to stimulate student discussions and promote a deeper understanding of the content.

Based on the best-selling book of the same name by Jay McTighe and Grant Wiggins, this new video provides practical advice for teachers on not only how to style questions that stimulate thought, provoke inquiry and spark more questions, but also how to transform instructional inquiry as a whole.

Using essential questions can be challenging – for both teachers and students. This video guides you through practical and proven processes, as well as suggested “response strategies” to encourage student engagement. Learn how to create a culture of inquiry so that all members of the educational community – student, teachers and administrators – benefit from the increased rigour and deepened understanding that emerge when essential questions become a guiding force for learners of all ages.

See the process come to life with scenes from a seminar though by Wiggins and of teachers using essential questions in practice. In addition, McTighe and Wiggins provide expert commentary about their years of experience in schools across the United States exploring just what makes an essential question *essential*.

## Supporting Resources:

- *Essential Questions: Opening Doors to Student Understanding* (109004)
- *Teaching as Inquiry: Asking Hard Questions to Improve Practice and Student Achievement* (TCP1670)