

Try This in Your Next RESEARCH LESSON

A quick, classroom-ready idea to build research skills and social emotional learning (SEL)

The Classroom Hook

When students explore more than one perspective on a topic, they practice evaluating evidence, thinking critically, and understanding viewpoints beyond their own.

The Activity (20–30 minutes)

1. Choose a topic connected to an upcoming unit.
2. Have students find two sources presenting different perspectives.
3. Ask students to compare key ideas, evidence and tone.
4. Facilitate a brief discussion or written response.

What Students Practice

Research skills:

- Evaluating sources
- Synthesizing information

SEL skills:

- Perspective-taking
- Empathy
- Reflection
- Responsible, informed decision-making

Grade Levels

Adaptable for upper elementary, middle school, and high school

Ready-to-Use Support

Suggested resources

(all available in library databases):

- Biographies
- Primary sources
- Point/counterpoint content

Optional reflection prompt:

“How did reading more than one perspective change or challenge your thinking?”

**Want help adapting
this for your class?**

Contact the library.

