



Instructor Guide for

## Plus, Minus, Interesting (PMI)

(SPARK >> Getting Started >> Choosing a Topic)

*NOTE: Useful when choosing a topic from a selection of topics*

### Skills Addressed

- assessing feasibility of, and personal interest in, research topics and ideas

### Suggested Uses

- Independent student use:** Ask/ suggest that students read resource on their own and decide for themselves when/ if/ how they will use resource
- Instructor-led Discussion:** Devote lecture/ tutorial time to describing the resource, its purposes and uses, and/or incorporate description and use of resource into broader discussion focusing on building the skills the resource targets
- Small Group Discussion:** Use to stimulate informal class/ tutorial discussion, and/or small group discussion

### Feedback / Evaluation Options

- Personal reflection and/or self-assessment**
- Informally, in small group discussion:** Assign to students to complete for sharing and discussion in small groups
- Peer Evaluation:** Assign to students to complete independently, for more formal peer evaluation
- Instructor Evaluation:** Assign to students to complete independently or as one stage of a larger assignment, and hand in for formal instructor evaluation
- Tracking Completion without Evaluating:** Assign to students to complete resource independently (on an ongoing basis, or at specific, appropriate times during the course), then hand in to instructor to track completion without assigning a specific grade to any individual completed resource

### Potential Customization

Can be used in a wide variety of situations where an individual or group decision has to be made.