The 40 Reflection Questions

Backward-Looking:

- 1. How much did you know about the subject before we started?
- 2. What process did you go through to produce this piece?
- 3. Have you done a similar kind of work in the past (earlier in the year or in a previous grade; in school or out of school)?
- 4. In what ways have you gotten better at this kind of work?
- 5. In what ways do you think you need to improve?
- 6. What problems did you encounter while you were working on this piece? How did you solve them?
- 7. What resources did you use while working on this piece? Which ones were especially helpful? Which ones would you use again?
- 8. Does this work tell a story?

Inward-Looking:

- 9. How do you feel about this piece of work? What parts of it do you particularly like? Dislike? Why? What did/do you enjoy about this piece or work?
- 10. What was especially satisfying to you about either the process or the finished product?
- 11. What did/do you find frustrating about it?
- 12. What were your standards for this piece of work?
- 13. Did you meet your standards?
- 14. What were your goals for meeting this piece of work? Did your goals change as you worked on it? Did you meet your goals?
- 15. What does this piece reveal about you as a learner?
- 16. What did you learn about yourself as you worked on this piece?
- 17. Have you changed any ideas you used to have on this subject?
- 18. Find another piece of work that you did at the beginning of the year to compare and contrast with this what changes can you see?
- 19. How did those changes come about?
- 20. What does that tell you about yourself and how you learn?

Outward-Looking:

- 21. Did you do your work the way other people did theirs?
- 22. In what ways did you do it differently?
- 23. In what ways was your work or process similar?
- 24. If you were the teacher, what comments would you make about this piece?
- 25. What grade would you give it? Why?
- 26. What the one thing you particularly want people to notice when they look at your work?
- 27. What do your classmates particularly notice about your piece when they look at it?
- 28. In what ways did your work meet the standards for this assignment?
- 29. In what ways did it not meet those standards?
- 30. If someone else were looking at the piece, what might they learn about who you are?

Forward-Looking:

- 31. One thing I would like to improve upon is ...
- 32. What would you change if you had a chance to do this piece over again?
- 33. What will you change in the next revision of this piece?
- 34. What's the one thing that you have seen in your classmates' work or process that you would like to try in your next piece?
- 35. As you look at this piece, what's one thing that you would like to try to improve upon?
- 36. What's one goal you would like to set for yourself for next time?
- 37. What would you like to spend more time on in school?
- 38. What might you want next year's teacher to know about you (what things you're good at)?
- 39. What things you might want more help with?
- 40. What work would you show her to help her understand those things?

