Using the Language of Thinking
(Source: Creating Cultures of Thinking, Ritchart, 2015)

Sample Questions/Prompts:

- When observing: “What do we see?”
- “What do you think might be going on?”
- “What does it make you wonder?”
- “What did you mean when you said.....”
- “Tell me what you just did.”
- “Where will you go next?”
- “What makes you say that?”
- “What do you think you were basing that idea on?”
- “What might be going on in this picture?”
- “How do you think that idea would play out in another context?”
- “Let’s follow that line of thinking; what’s the action that might follow from it?”
- “_____________ what do you think about what _____________ just said?”
- “_____________ thinks the answer might be X. What other possibilities do we want to consider?”
- “What do you notice?”
- “I’m interested in what you think about.....”
- “I’m excited to do some thinking with you!”
- “I can see you have pushed yourself.”

Video examples:

Making Thinking Visible – Creating a Culture of Thinking
Teacher Modelling – interview with a teacher
Project Zero – Thinking Routines
Headlines Thinking Routine – Grade 6 class
Glimpse of Learning – Out of Eden Project