Creating Essential Questions:
Begin at **THE** Source—The Course Description

1) Working in small content-area groups, select a Course Description to use from those available.
2) Identify the key words and/or phrases in the opening paragraph and note(s) that indicate the overarching purposes of the Course.
3) Find key words and phrases in the benchmarks and standards.

*Time now to go from general to more specific...*

1) What *Learning Goals* should this Course focus on?
2) Brainstorm a bevy of brainteasers – balk at NONE until you’re DONE!
3) NOW, begin to consider them again. Which are too specific? Which ones “hook and hold?”
4) Which puzzlers connect to the *Learning Goals* your considered for this Course Description?
5) Which questions touch on most or all of the benchmarks and standards?
6) Select one question and write it in age-friendly language.