15. Organizing Students to Practice and Deepen Knowledge

The teacher organizes and guides grouping in ways that appropriately facilitate practicing and deepening knowledge.

Example Teacher Evidence
☐ Teacher organizes students into groups with the expressed idea of deepening their knowledge of content
☐ Teacher organizes students into groups with the expressed idea of practicing a skill, strategy, or process
☐ Teacher provides guidance regarding group interactions
☐ Teacher provides guidance on one or more conative skills
  • Becoming aware of the power of interpretations
  • Avoiding negative thinking
  • Taking various perspectives
  • Interacting responsibly
  • Handling controversy and conflict resolution
☐ Teacher provides guidance on one or more cognitive skills appropriate for the lesson

Example Student Evidence
☐ Students explain how the group work supports their learning
☐ While in groups, students interact in explicit ways to deepen their knowledge of informational content or practice a skill, strategy, or process
  • Students actively ask and answer questions about the content
  • Students add their perspective to discussions
☐ Students move and work within groups with an organized purpose
☐ Students have an awareness of the power of interpretations
☐ Students avoid negative thinking
☐ Students take various perspectives
☐ Students interact responsibly
☐ Students appear to know how to handle controversy and conflict resolution
☐ Students attend to the cognitive skill(s)

Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Not Using</th>
<th>Beginning</th>
<th>Developing</th>
<th>Applying</th>
<th>Innovating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Organizing students to practice and deepen knowledge</td>
<td>Strategy was called for but not exhibited.</td>
<td>Uses strategy incorrectly or with parts missing.</td>
<td>Organizes students into groups that appropriately facilitate practicing and deepening knowledge, but the majority of students are either not monitored for or not displaying the desired effect of the strategy.</td>
<td>Organizes students into groups that appropriately facilitate practicing and deepening knowledge and monitors for evidence of the extent to which the group work extends the learning of the majority of students.</td>
<td>Adapts and creates new strategies for unique student needs and situations in order for the desired effect to be evident in all students.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reflection Questions

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Organizing students to practice and deepen knowledge</td>
<td>How can you begin to incorporate some aspects of this strategy into your instruction?</td>
<td>How can you organize students into groups to practice and deepen knowledge?</td>
<td>In addition to organizing students into groups to practice and deepen knowledge, how can you also monitor the extent to which the group work extends the learning of the majority of students?</td>
<td>How might you adapt and create new strategies for organizing students to practice and deepen knowledge that address unique student needs and situations for all students?</td>
<td>What are you learning about your students as you adapt and create new strategies?</td>
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</tbody>
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