

Lesson Study Overview

Planning the Focus Lesson

What are the learning goals?

Long term goals for students' academic/ personal development and content-specific goals

Design the Focus Lesson

to relate to the team's inquiry; to connect to hunches; to foster learning goals; to actively engage students; to make learning visible.

Team discussion and feedback:

Anticipate student confusion and preconceptions; apply research; draw on interdisciplinary expertise.

Revise the Focus Lesson.

Agree on observer protocols/roles:

What will observers track? What specifically are they looking for in student thinking, learning, behavior? How will the observations inform the inquiry?

Teaching/Observing the Focus Lesson

What do we see?

Teach the Focus Lesson.

Take opportunities to make learning visible.

Observe the Focus Lesson.

Observers study student thinking, learning, and engagement during the lesson using agreed upon protocols.

Record observations using agreed upon format.

Collect artifacts that capture student learning and experience: written work, self-reflections, video of class, post-lesson interviews, etc.

Reflecting on the Focus Lesson

How can we see it better?

Analyze artifacts and observations.

Zoom in. What do we see that relates to our inquiry? What jumps out that we didn't anticipate? What is obvious? Are there patterns in student behavior? What are they getting, what are they not? What questions keep coming up for us as we reflect on what students are doing and not doing?

How can we help others see it?

What are we learning about students and their learning? What is fresh, new, useful, compelling? How did our Lesson Study contribute to our inquiry? What elements from this process might others benefit from seeing?