

Suggestions for Promoting Reflection on Teaching

The primary goal of debriefing after any lesson is taught is to nurture reflection on the lesson in order to learn from the experience and increase the intern's ownership of the lesson. The following is a structure for such a conversation to achieving this goal.

1. Begin by asking the intern to respond to:
 - What went well with your lesson and why was this aspect effective?
 - What would you change (to improve the lesson or just for variety) if you were to teach this lesson again?

2. The offer reflections, as appropriate, on the lesson, phrasing comments in the form of PRAISE, CLARIFYING QUESTIONS, ELICITING QUESTIONS, AND LEADING QUESTIONS:
 - PRAISE State what went well and why. Be sincere and give a rationale.
 - CLARIFYING QUESTIONS: Ask for more information about what was seen or heard in the lesson or prompt teacher reflection on some action, strategy or decision.
 - ELICITING QUESTIONS: Ask the intern to think about other ways of doing something.
 - LEADING QUESTIONS: Use to suggest a specific strategy or idea.