

HANDOUT

Pre-Observation Planning Example Questions

Questions to clarify goals

- What are you planning to teach?
- What do you want students to know and be able to do as a result of this lesson?
- Which curriculum standard(s) does this lesson address?
- How does this fit with what you have been doing recently with your students?

Questions to identify what will be taught and how it will be taught

- What specifically will you be introducing/reviewing with the students? How will you do that?
- Do any of your students have special needs? If so, how will you accommodate them?
- What modifications or scaffolding have you done with them already?
- What will I see when I observe the beginning of the lesson? The middle? The end?
- What will you be doing?
- What will the students be doing?
- What is the most crucial ingredient for this lesson to be successful?
- Are there any parts of the lesson that you are uncertain about?

Questions on routines, procedures, and materials management

- How many students do you have?
- How will the students be organized (e.g., individually, in groups)?
- What are the benefits of organizing the students in this way?
- How long is the lesson?
- What materials will the students be using, if any?
- How will you distribute them?

Questions on evidence of student understanding and learning

- How will you know if students have learned what you want them to know and be able to do?
- What specific evidence are you looking for?
- How will you be assessing this lesson?
- In the future, how will you assess learning in this lesson for example, as it relates to other lessons in the unit?

Questions regarding what data will be most useful to reflect upon

- What would you like me to pay attention to?
- What kind of information would be most useful for you to reflect upon after the lesson?
- What way of recording that information would be most useful to you?

Reminder for the new teacher

Remember that if you need to change anything for the benefit of the students, feel free to do so.
That is a natural part of teaching.