

Guidelines for Pre-Observation Meeting of a Research Lesson

Content of the Lesson

Purpose: Participants engage in a task that helps them understand the concepts being developed in the research lesson

- Give participants the task
- Have them work individually or in small groups
- As a whole group, discuss the important concepts in the lesson
 - *What are the important (scientific, mathematical, etc.) ideas in this task?*

Student Understanding

Purpose: Participants consider how students develop understanding of these concepts and how they might respond to the task

- If the above task is a modified version of the task that is given to students, share the actual task with the participants
- Small groups discuss:
 - *How would (first, fifth, eighth, etc.) grade students develop understanding of these concepts?*
 - *How do you think students will respond to this task? What are anticipated student responses?*
 - *What misconceptions might students have around these concepts?*
- Share in whole group discussion

Research Lesson

Purpose: Lesson study team shares research and thinking (about content, students, and instruction) that took place during the planning process

- Distribute research lesson and allow participants time to read through the lesson
- Explain the research and planning that your team went through in developing the lesson
- If this is the revised lesson and second teaching/implementation, share what you learned from the first teaching and how that experience informed this revised lesson
- Tell the observers which points of evaluation you want them to focus and take notes on
- Point out the overarching evaluation questions at the end of the lesson plan

Observation Protocol

Purpose: Participants will identify protocols for observing a lesson

- Review debriefing protocol with observers

