

Novice Teacher Observation Form

What to Look for When Observing an Experienced Teacher

Directions: It is important to have your mentee observers collect data while observing you teach. Use the possible focus areas listed on the previous page to create your own observation form or use this one. If there is more than one teacher observing, they can compare and share what they noticed. Some teachers may see one thing and others won't. That is why it is valuable to have a postconference after the lesson to clarify and extend the learning.

1. How the teacher manages the classroom. Note the following: Physical layout, traffic flow, routines and procedures, etc. Draw a map of the classroom.
2. Lesson plan. Note the following: Objectives, why do you think she is teaching this lesson? What is the motivator to engage students and the closer at the end of the class to wrap of the learning? Is the lesson part of a unit of study or is it a one-time lesson?
3. How engaged are the students? Note: Who is paying attention? Is anyone off task? How does the teacher bring them back to task? How are disruptions handled? How is praise used? Does the mentor use the students' names?
4. Instructional strategies for learning. Note: Is technology being used? How? What is the teacher using to promote student learning? How does she know the students are learning? Where is the assessment in this lesson?
5. Other things you noticed. What do you want to know more about? List your questions for the postconference.