

DOINGWHATWORKS



SAMPLE MATERIAL

Observing Feedback in a Math Classroom

Don Pedro Elementary School, California

Topic: Encouraging Girls in Math and Science

Practice: Prescriptive Feedback

A sixth-grade math teacher at Don Pedro Elementary School is incorporating multiple elements of prescriptive, informational feedback in her class. To facilitate this instructional strategy, she uses classroom organization and checking for understanding techniques. This checklist was used to observe one double-period math lesson.

Strategies incorporated in Ms. Anderson's Math Classrooms, Don Pedro, CA
Classroom Organization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Students work individually <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students work with a partner <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students work in small groups <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Whole classroom discussion
Appropriate Feedback Components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Encourages students to show all their steps of thinking <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uses warm and positive tone <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uses “think aloud” to model thought processes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduces multiple strategies to solve the same problem <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uses appropriate pacing to students' level of understanding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Praises effort <input type="checkbox"/> Praises process <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Praises students for taking on challenges (e.g., going to the Smart Board for the first time) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Encourages a classroom debate as a process for figuring out an answer <input type="checkbox"/> Provides opportunity for transfer of control to student <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uses appropriate audio, visual, technology equipment to demonstrate steps in problem solving <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Acknowledges frustration and difficulty <input type="checkbox"/> Points out that mistakes are a learning opportunity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Models possible mistakes and what students can learn from them <input type="checkbox"/> Encourages cooperation and support <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Encourages positive peer feedback <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provides feedback to individual students <input type="checkbox"/> Provides feedback to work groups <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provides feedback to the classroom as a whole
Checking for Understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students show answers on their whiteboards <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students show answers using sign language <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students share their answers as part of classroom discussion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students show how they solve a problem using the Smart Board <input type="checkbox"/> Students show how they solve a problem using the classroom white board <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students show level of confidence raising their fingers (10 fingers = high confidence) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Students hand in their classroom work