Instructional Design

PersonalizedPD’s continuous learning process has teachers surface challenges in their classroom and try proven teaching strategies to find what works to accelerate student learning. Our Instructional Design Teacher Growth Areas (and corresponding Teaching Challenges) zero in on specific, high-leverage areas of teachers’ professional practice, aligned with Danielson’s Framework. The strategy browser then provides teachers with strategies for restructuring how they design their instruction and optimize their practice to better serve their students.

Teacher Growth Areas & Teaching Challenges

**Culture For Learning**
- Create a culture for learning
- Create a student centered learning environment
- Build a climate of trust and respect
- Foster appreciation of cultural diversity
- Create a learning environment that advances 21st century skills

**Instructional Design Content & Delivery**
- Build my knowledge about instructional delivery
- Build understanding of essential content knowledge
- Incorporate a variety of teaching methods
- Utilize questioning to support student learning
- Teach 21st century skills for digital age literacy, communication, inventive thinking, and global connections
- Engaging students in authentic applications of knowledge
- Engage students in analysis, synthesis, and evaluation

**Data Driven Planning**
- Build my knowledge about data driven planning
- Design coherent instruction based knowledge of subject matter and student data
- Prepare lessons that clarify students misconceptions about the content
- Personalize instruction based on student diversity and learning needs
- Develop lesson plans that address immediate and long term goals

**Assessment of Learning Practices**
- Build my knowledge about assessment of learning practices
- Provide frequent, timely, and specific assessment feedback
- Build a system to analyze and interpret data to guide instructional decisions
- Utilize technology to assess, analyze, and monitor student progress

**Growing & Developing Professionally**
- Create professional goals that support student learning and growth
- Assess and evaluate my progress towards my professional goals
- Effectively collaborate with other teachers
- Find great instructional resources
- Seek feedback to improve my practice

**Family & Community Engagement**
- Build my knowledge about family and community engagement
- Encourage all families to become active participants in the classroom and school community
- Collaborate with families to create and implement strategies to support student learning and development
How do I utilize questioning to support student learning?

**INDICATORS OF SUCCESS**

- Teacher formulates questions of high cognitive challenge and supports students to develop questions of high cognitive challenge.
- Teacher asks questions with multiple correct answers or multiple approaches, even when there is a single correct response.
- Teacher effectively uses student responses and ideas to inform instruction.

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**Sample Strategies**

**Inquiry Based Teaching-Asking Effective Questions**

In this video, the teacher demonstrates asking open ended questions to encourage students to share their opinions and to take ownership of their learning.

**Source:** Teaching Channel  
**Grades:** High School

**Questions to Consider**

How could you prepare the open ended questions you will ask to students, while also allowing for organic student conversation?

How could you create a classroom environment that encourages rich dialogue and questioning between students and teachers?

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**The Art of Questioning**

In this video, the teacher discusses how to strategically structure the questions posed to students. With each question asked, the complexity builds and students are required to engage in deeper analysis.

**Source:** Teaching Channel  
**Grades:** High School

**Questions to Consider**

Think about an upcoming topic you are teaching. How could you incorporate this sequence of basic to more complex questioning with students?

How could you use student answers to determine the sequence of your questioning?
**Bloom’s Taxonomy**

This reference sheet helps teachers understand the hierarchical structure of this framework and how to implement these levels of questioning in their classrooms.

**STRATEGIC QUESTIONING**

In this BetterLesson strategy, Aaron uses various questioning techniques to assess student learning and to push them to explore a concept more deeply.

**SOURCE:** Bloom’s Taxonomy

**GRADES:** All grade levels

**QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

How could you build your students’ higher-order thinking skills over time?

What types of performance tasks could you develop that incorporate the different levels of questioning?

**SOURCE:** BetterLesson

**GRADES:** All Grade Levels

**QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER**

At what point in a lesson could you apply various questioning techniques to support your students’ learning?

How could you use strategic questioning to differentiate your instruction?