**The Important Questions of Teaching**

This is a list of important questions that all teachers should continue to try to answer every day! This list is meant to guide and frame discussions between mentors and teachers and to encourage reflection into our teaching.

Taken from **The Skillful Teacher: Building Your Teaching Skills** by, Jon Saphier, Mary Ann Haley-Speca, Robert Gower, 2008.

1. How do I get students to pay attention and stay on task? (Attention)
2. How do I keep the flow of events moving smoothly and minimize downtime, delays, and distractions? (Momentum)
3. How do I eliminate disruptions while building responsibility and ownership? (Discipline)
4. How do I make concepts and skills clear and accessible to students? (Clarity)
5. How do I design more efficient and effective learning experiences? (Principles of Learning)
6. How do my personal passions show up in a "No Child Left Behind" world? (Overarching Objectives)
7. What do I need to know about my curriculum? (Curriculum Design)
8. How should I frame objectives so they precisely guide my planning and my students' learning? (Objectives)
9. How do I plan lessons that will reach all my students? (Planning)
10. How do I create learning experiences that develop the mind as well as the content? (Models-of Teaching)
11. What choices do I have for differentiating learning experiences? (Learning Experiences)
12. How can I use assessment to inform instruction and improve student performance? (Assessment)
13. How do I get the most out of my space and furniture?
14. How do I time events and regulate schedules so that students get the most productive learning time? (Time)
15. What procedural routines are important and how do I get maximum mileage out of them? (Routines)
16. How do I communicate to students that what we're doing is important, that they can do it well, and that I won't give up on them? (Expectations)
17. How do I build good personal relationships with students and make them feel truly known and valued? (Personal Relationship Building)
18. How do I build a climate of inclusion, risk taking, and personal efficacy? (Classroom Climate)

Other Needs Assessment Ideas:

<http://www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/teacherresource/files/new%20teacher%20needs%20assessment.pdf>

<http://www.washoe.k12.nv.us/docs/staff/mentor-teach/Novice_Needs_Assessment_Questionnaire.pdf> **NOVICE Teacher Needs Assessment**

Please respond to each item with the one that most nearly indicates your level of need for assistance and/or resources in the area addressed by the item.

A. Little or No Need for assistance in this area

B. Some Need for assistance in this area

C. Moderate Need for assistance in this area

D. High Need for assistance in this area

E. Very High Need for assistance in this area

1. Learning more of what is expected of me as a new teacher (classroom, school, system).
2. Learning more about the organization of the school and improvement priorities.
3. Learning more about the informal knowledge that is part of the school culture.
4. Learning more about the needs of my students.
5. Learning more about the families of my students.
6. Developing a thorough, in-depth knowledge of the content I teach.
7. Learning more about research-based strategies when instructing my students.
8. Learning more about the INTASC standards and TN's Framework for Evaluation and
   * 1. Professional Growth.
9. Observing other teachers on the faculty.
10. Receiving support and possible solutions when I encounter difficulties.
11. Becoming a more reflective, skilled, instructional problem-solver and decision maker.
12. Becoming a more effective instructor through diagnosis of needs, meaningful feedback and collaborative goal-setting.
13. Acquiring effective planning, teaching, classroom management, and assessment strategies to meet the differentiated learning needs of my students.
14. Developing a professional development plan for future growth.
15. Developing interpersonal and relationship building skills.
16. Balancing my own work and life responsibilities as I learn to teach.
17. Learning more about district and school policies that would be helpful to my professional role.

***Please include any additional needs for assistance or resources you have at this time.***

Novice Teacher Needs Assessment/ Form 3

http://www.google.com/url?sa=t&source=web&cd=11&ved=0CBgQFjAAOAo&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cr.k12.ia.us%2FDistrictResources%2FPublic%2FHuman%2520Resources%2FStaffServices%2FMentoring%2FDocuments%2FNeeds%2520assessment%2520Questionnaire%2520for%2520Beginning%2520Teachers.doc&rct=j&q=%22Needs%20Assessment%22%20New%20teachers&ei=DTlMTovOHpGtgQfDtqVz&usg=AFQjCNGBvZPVrETIirIRG7\_VaAWpSnyENg&cad=rja