



## *Into the Book: Behind the Lesson* Professional Learning Guide

You do not become a remarkable teacher working alone. Teaching is a team sport, and teamwork is the best way to improve teacher effectiveness and thereby improve student learning.

*Professional Learning Teams* work together to examine new resources, discuss different teaching techniques, assess current practices and take a more reflective approach to instruction.

Here's how to do it...

1. View an episode of *Into the Book: Behind the Lesson* with a professional learning team.
2. Reflect on the ideas shared in the program.

### Conversation starters:

- Discuss your assumptions, agreements, arguments and aspirations!
  - Which classroom practices from the video reflect what you are currently doing with your students?
  - Which classroom practices from the video are new to you?
  - How can this program help you to improve students' learning and success in your classroom? (Encourage diversity of thought and perspective)
  - The big ideas in this program...
  - The most exciting part of this program...
  - How is this program going to change your teaching?
  - What support and or resources will you need to implement your new ideas?
  - Discuss the lesson modeled in this program.
  - Discuss the lessons you are currently using to teach the learning strategy.
  - Discuss your questions about the strategy instruction in this program.
  - Discuss the culture of the classroom featured in the program.
  - Discuss classroom management techniques in the program.
  - How is information shared in the featured classroom?
  - Discuss the use of the gradual release model of instruction.
  - How does this program connect your state teaching standards? In Wisconsin: <http://dpi.wi.gov/tepd/stand10.html>
  - How does this program connect with National Staff Development Standards? <http://www.nsd.org/standards/index.cfm>
3. Use your newly acquired knowledge to teach a learning strategy in your classroom.
  4. Reconvene the professional learning team to discuss the lesson that you taught in your classroom.
  5. Share usable feedback and draw on the expertise of those in your group.
  6. CELEBRATE your successes because you are a better teacher today than you were yesterday!