

Facilitating Whole Class Discussion

Draft Look Fors

The Teacher...

- Creates an environment that encourages respectful, open discussion by setting expectations, establishing norms, and modeling respectful interactions with students
- Articulates a clear learning objective for the discussion
- Provides a variety of opportunities and strategies for students to share ideas and engage in discussions
- Asks open ended, high-level questions that guide students toward the learning objective, ask students to clarify or further explain their thinking, and clear up misconceptions
- Listens to students and provides active cues of engagement (body language, eye contact, repeating answers, etc.)
- Orients students to the thinking of other students
- Synthesizing and distilling key points for take away

The Students...

- Are actively engaged in the discussion (listening, taking notes, and participating)
- Interact respectfully
- Use academic language and vocabulary
- Connect to and build on other students' responses