

Ways to Participate in Professional Development: A Menu

Learning from Colleagues

- Observe in each other's classrooms
- Plan and debrief with colleagues
- Look at student work together using protocols
- Eat lunch together to talk about what you've done in your class and what you're thinking
- Try things in your classroom and talk with colleagues

Study Groups

- Professional literature: articles or books
- Personal reading: articles or books; fiction or nonfiction
- Burning issue or common theme
- Regular team meetings around topic or reading

Practicing in Your Classroom

- Explicitly focus on strategy throughout classroom
- Teach strategy during reading instruction: Use instructional model; gradual release of responsibility
- Notice your own reading strategies and share with students
- Try strategies in other subject areas

Working with Staff Developers or Coaches

- Observe demonstration lessons in your own or other classrooms
- Consult on planning
- Co-teach

Networking

- Visit other schools or classrooms
- Attend labs
- Attend classes or seminars

Going Public

- Share what you've done that worked or about which you have questions
- Provide demonstrations for colleagues
- Display student work in public spaces
- Present student work for focused discussion

Assessment

- Journal of your own thinking and learning
- Running records
- Regular conferencing with students
- Asset map
- Portfolios: student, teacher, school
- Anecdotal observations of children's progress

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