

Helpful Language to Use in Coaching Conversation

1. It's wonderful to step into this classroom and see (point out specifics).
2. I noticed that more attention is paid to the front of the room.
3. The children were (engaged, working, etc.) except for . . . Why do you think that was happening?
4. After the students viewed the video, what were you hoping would happen next?
5. When I was watching, I was excited about your questioning technique.
6. What has happened lately that you felt really excited and pleased about?
7. The students were really learning actively when they divided the assignment... Does that fit with your sense of what was going on?
8. Students were really learning actively when... Does that fit with your sense of what was going on?
9. How did you know that students understood?
10. Can you help me understand what was happening when the two students were allowed to go to the gym?
11. Try (a specific action or technique) and let me know how it works.
12. Try this (book, idea) and give me some feedback on how it went.
13. What are your priorities for these children?
14. What do you want these children to be able to do in (time period)?
15. Did students perform as you expected today?
16. Tell me about (child, event, book).
17. I was impressed with the children's (independence, enjoyment, oral discussion, reading, writing, etc.).
What helped them learn that?
18. It appears that you are really enjoying these children. How is this group different?
19. I was listening to the respectful way children talk to one another. What did you do to help achieve this?
20. You seemed concerned about (event, child, time, etc.). Can you talk about it?
21. I thought (child) was (attitude, behavior, etc.). Is that right? Can you tell me more?
22. How can I help you in your teaching? (I have a suggestion. Tell me what you think).
23. Students were roaming around the room. Is that typical?
24. You selected the same students for every activity. Can you talk about your decision?
25. Was this a typical (morning, reading, group, lesson, etc.)?