

Answers to Chapter 6: Comprehension Questions

1. *What things should teachers keep in mind when watching videos of other teachers?*

Teachers should remember that videos of other teachers may not always show effective teaching. While watching videos, teachers should identify what the teacher in the video did well and what the teacher did not do well. Additionally, teachers viewing video can identify strategies that were not used but might have been effective in the situation shown in the video.

2. *How might you use coaching colleagues to enhance your own professional development?*

Answers will vary, because each school and teacher is unique. Coaching colleagues can be pairs or small groups of teachers who observe each other and meet to share feedback. An entire team or school could also implement coaching colleagues. Coaching colleagues should create a set of norms to govern their interactions.

3. *What is the purpose of instructional rounds?*

The purpose of instructional rounds is for teachers to enhance their own practice by comparing it to teachers they observe. Instructional rounds are never evaluative. Teachers who agree to instructional rounds visiting their classrooms should be thanked, but observing teachers should not give feedback unless the observed teacher asks for it. At the end of a set of instructional rounds, observers should identify strategies they currently use, strategies they saw other teachers use, questions they now have about their own use of strategies, and new ideas they now have for using strategies in their classrooms.

4. *How might you use instructional rounds in your school?*

Answers will vary, because each school is different. Instructional rounds require administrative support. The administrator in charge of instructional rounds designates a lead teacher who schedules a time for each teacher in the building to participate in instructional rounds at least once a semester. The lead teacher works with the administrator to arrange coverage for teachers' classes while they participate in instructional rounds. The lead teacher also recruits highly effective teachers who will allow groups to visit their classrooms and facilitates discussions after the observations.