

# Protocol for Post-Lesson Discussion

1. **The Instructor's Reflections:** The instructor describes the goals for today's lesson, comments on what went well and on any difficulties, and reflects on what was learned in planning and conducting today's lesson. (5 minutes or less)
2. **Background Information from the Lesson Study Group Members:** If observers beyond the lesson study team are in attendance, team members explain their goals for students and why they designed the lesson (and unit) as they did. (5 minutes)
3. **Presentation and Discussion of Data from the Research Lesson:** Lesson study team members (followed by observers, if any) present data from their observations. The data have been agreed upon in advance, and may include student work, a record of questions by the teacher and/or students, narrative records of all activities by focal students or selected small groups, record of the blackboard, summary of student solution methods, etc. *What do the data suggest about the students' progress on the lesson goals and goals for long-term development?* (10-30 minutes, depending on whether you will conduct items 4 and 5)
4. **General Discussion:** A brief free discussion period, facilitated by a moderator, may be provided. The focus is on student learning and development, and on how specific elements of lesson design supported these (or not). The moderator may designate questions or themes for discussion, so that there is ordered discussion of key issues, rather than a free-for-all. Comments of a sensitive nature may be conveyed privately at a later time. If no outsiders are present, your team can summarize what you learned about student learning, and the implications for your future instruction. (variable)
5. **Outside Commentator (optional):** An invited outside commentator may discuss the lesson in relation to key subject matter issues, link the observed lesson to larger issues in teaching and learning, and help the team consider possible next steps for instruction. (20-30 minutes)
6. **Thanks:** Be sure to thank the instructor, planners, and attendees for their work to improve instruction.

