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Considering Evidence Protocol

Developed as part of Project Zero's Evidence Project, Harvard Graduate School of Education — adapted with permission.

Roles

Presenter

Facilitator who also participates

Group Members

Time

Approximately 25 minutes for each presentation of evidence.

1. Presenter reminds the group of the question s/he is (or they are) working on, and then presents the evidence that relates to this question, responding to the following three prompts:
 - What did you bring?
 - Why did you bring it?
 - What does it say in relation to the question?
2. The group asks the presenter just a few clarifying questions.
3. The group then discusses what they heard. They talk further about what this evidence tells them about the question, raising additional interpretations. They pose probing/reflective questions and they talk about what other evidence they would find helpful in considering this question. The presenter listens and takes notes, but does not participate in the discussion.
4. The presenter reflects back to the group what s/he heard that was particularly interesting, and if there is time, engages the group in further conversation about next steps.

Protocols are most powerful and effective when used within an ongoing professional learning community such as a Critical Friends Group® and facilitated by a skilled coach. To learn more about professional learning communities and seminars for new or experienced coaches, please visit the National School Reform Faculty website at www.nsrharmony.org.