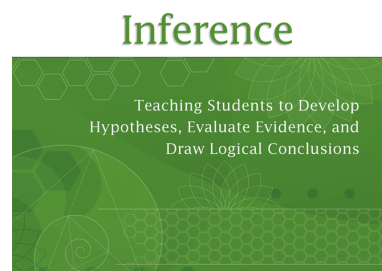


Inference: Teaching Students to Develop Hypotheses, Evaluate Evidence, and Draw Logical Conclusions

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A STRATEGIC TEACHER **PLC** GUIDE



Harvey F. Silver | R. Thomas Dewing | Matthew J. Perini

A GUIDE FOR PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITIES

Summary:

Inference is an innovative professional development tool called a Strategic Teacher PLC Guide. Designed in partnership with schools, these guides aim to bring high-impact, research-based instructional practices into every classroom. Each guide serves as a complete professional development resource for professional learning communities to plan and implement the strategy in classrooms.

The Strategic Teacher PLC Guide focuses on inference, or the ability to examine information, generate hypotheses, and draw conclusions. Making inferences is a process that underlies higher-order thinking and 21st century skills. This develops students' inferential thinking skills. The guide covers four main subject areas - inductive learning, mystery, main idea and investigation. It directs students to use various problem-solving approaches that require inferences and takes educators on a "guided tour" of inference.

Inference gives opportunities to incorporate inference-based activities into class instruction. It contains sample inference lessons and planning forms designed by teachers and examines student work at various levels of proficiency.

Supporting Resources:

- *Compare and Contrast: Teaching Comparative Thinking to Strengthen Student Learning* (110126)
- *Task Rotation: Strategies for Differentiating Activities and Assessments by Learning Style* (110129)
- *The Interactive Lecture: How to Engage Students, Build Memory and Deepen Comprehension* (110127)
- *Reading For Meaning: How to Build Students' Comprehension, Reading and Problem-Solving Skills* (119614)

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