Ladder of Feedback

Title of Unit/Lesson:
Feedback fom:
Feedback from:

The "Ladder of Feedback" is an approach to assessing for understanding that establishes a culture of trust and constructive support. The Ladder of Feedback suggests following this sequence when providing feedback:

Clarify

Are there aspects of this work that you don't believe you have understood?

What else aren't you sure of? Ensure that you're clear about your feedback colleague's work by asking some questions or stating any assumptions you've made (i.e., "I wasn't sure if you meant "X," but that's what I assumed, so now you can understand where my feedback is coming from.")

Formulate your comments here:

Value

What do you see in this work that you find to be particularly impressive, innovative, strong?

• valuing builds a supportive culture of understanding and will help your feedback colleague to identify strengths in their work that they might not have recognized otherwise.
• valuing reminds your feedback colleague of the parts of his/her design that should be preserved when making improvements.
• expressing your appreciation for learners and their ideas is fundamental to the process of constructive feedback.
• emphasizing the positive points of the work and offering honest compliments sets a supportive tone.

Formulate your comments here:

Offer Concerns or Issues

Do you detect some potential problems or challenges within the work? Do you disagree with some part of the work?

share your concerns, not as derisive accusations or abrasive criticisms, but as honest thoughts (i.e., "Have you considered . . ."; "What I wonder about is. . ."; "Perhaps you have thought about this, but . . .".)

Formulate your comments here:

Suggest

Do you have suggestions on how to address the concerns you identified above?

• help your feedback colleague make improvements by sharing your ideas on how he/she might revise the work (of course, there is no guarantee that your colleague will use the suggestions -- suggestions are just that). The designer of the work "owns" the work.

Formulate your comments here: