# Looking for Powerful Learning

**Digital Promise®**
Accelerating Innovation in Education

**Powerful Learning is personal and accessible, authentic and challenging, collaborative and connected, and inquisitive and reflective. By designing learning experiences that reflect these principles, educators can deeply engage their students in learning and ensure the purposeful use of technology.**

**Use this tool during learning walks to better understand and offer feedback on a learning experience. Use the I saw, I appreciate, I wonder protocol to record observations, thoughts, and questions. Use the "look fors" and sentence frames as guides, and feel free to go beyond what's there.**

| Powerful Learning | I saw students.. | I appreciate... | I wonder... |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Personal & Accessible**<br><br>How does this learning experience understand and address each learner's holistic variability to create a safe space where all learners can succeed, offer options so that the learning is accessible, and give students voice, choice, and decision-making power? | ☐ **framing their learning goals**<br>☐ **making choices about their learning.**<br>☐ **participating in a supportive learning community**<br>☐ **Other evidence:** | How the lesson...<br><br>How students...<br><br>How you... | What would it look like if...?<br><br>How else might you...?<br><br>What impact do you think...?<br><br>Why did you decide...? |
| **Authentic & Challenging**<br><br>How does this learning experience connect to the lived experiences of the students, offer an authentic purpose for learning that engages learners' desire to better their world, and engage all learners in a productive struggle? | ☐ **solving or investigating real-world challenges**<br>☐ **making connections between learning and the world**<br>**working at the leading edge of their abilities**<br>☐ **demonstrating a growth mindset.**<br>☐ **Other evidence:** | How the lesson...<br><br>How students...<br><br>How you... | What would it look like if...?<br><br>How else might you...?<br><br>What impact do you think...?<br><br>Why did you decide...? |

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| **Connected & Collaborative**<br><br>**How does this learning experience foster collaborative problem solving, create opportunities for students to learn from one another, and connect students with other people inside or outside of the school?** | ☐ **connected to their communities**<br>☐ **solving problems together**<br>☐ **teaching one another**<br>☐ **sharing artifacts of their learning with an authentic audience**<br>☐ **Other evidence:** | **How the lesson...**<br><br>**How students...**<br><br><br>**How you...** | **What would it look like if...?**<br><br>**How else might you...?**<br><br>**What impact do you think...?**<br><br>**Why did you decide...?** |
| **Inquisitive & Reflection**<br><br>**How does this learning experience create opportunities for students to ask questions that will guide their learning of the topic, recall prior learning and make connections to new learning, and reflect on their learning and the learning process both during and after the experience?** | ☐ **driving the questioning**<br>☐ **recalling, reflecting, and synthesizing**<br>☐ **reflecting on their learning process**<br>☐ **Other evidence:** | **How the lesson...**<br><br><br>**How students...**<br><br><br>**How you...** | **What would it look like if...?**<br><br>**How else might you...?**<br><br>**What impact do you think...?**<br><br>**Why did you decide...?** |

# Questions for Students

| | What to ask? | What to assess |
|---|---|---|
| **Personal & Accessible** | • What are you learning? <br> • How are you learning it? <br> • Why is this important to you? | • Do they describe how they've made their own choices, not only choices they were given? <br><br> • Can they express how the learning is important to them, without simply repeating the goals of the teacher? |
| **Authentic & Challenging** | • Why is this important outside of the classroom? <br> • What do you find challenging? <br> • What do you do if you get stuck? | • Can students articulate the real-world purpose for their learning? <br><br> • Does their narrative reflect an appropriate level of challenge and a growth mindset? |
| **Connected & Collaborative** | • Who have you worked with as you've learned this? <br> • How are you going to share your work and with whom? <br> • | • Are the students working towards a public goal beyond the satisfaction of a teacher or a grade? <br><br> • Do they share discussions they have had about this lesson with peers and others in the community? |
| **Inquisitive & Reflective** | • What questions are you trying to answer? Who came up with those questions? <br> • How is this like something you learned earlier? What have you learned about yourself and the world through this lesson? | • Do they describe how they've contributed to the questions guiding the learning? <br><br> • Are students able to make connections between new and prior learning? <br><br> • Can they express insights into their learning process, their personal learning goals, and the world around them? |