



Implementing Lesson Study at Your School

A How to Guide...

Step 1: Conduct Needs Assessment

- by department and/or school
- keep in mind the school vision/instructional focus

Step 2: Identify the Research Goal and Team Members

- research goal aligns to needs assessment
- research goal is specific, actionable, and can allow for results to be generalized
- team members are chosen based on the research goal

Step 3: Give Team Members an Overview of Lesson Study

- general background knowledge of lesson study (what is lesson study)
- share research goal
- clearly define the structure of lesson study and the roles/responsibilities of team members

Step 4: Create a Schedule

- release teachers for planning, implantation/observation and debrief (administration involvement needed)
- choose class and teacher implementing the lesson
- provide practice time for a “run through” of the lesson (team members are the “students”)
- communicate schedule to all team members

Step 5: Plan the Lesson

- minimum 90 minutes
- implementation teacher needs to bring; seating chart, data (summative or formative), teacher guide, unit plan and “sketch of the lesson”
- at the end of the planning period, the team has created a detailed lesson plan for implementation, aligned to the research goal, including all materials and resources needed for students
- one team member (usually the coach) records the lesson (final draft form) and gathers resources (creating new resources, if needed)

Step 6: Implement the Lesson

- one to two members of the team teach the lesson, remaining team members silently observe, taking low-inference notes on both students and teacher(s)
- video camera can also be used
- student work is collected at the end of the lesson
- observing teachers DO NOT interact with students

Step 7: Debrief the Lesson

- minimum 45 minutes
- one team member facilitates the debrief, first establishing the research goal and purpose of the lesson study(usually the coach), one team member takes notes
- conversations focus on student work, answering the research goal, reflecting on the lesson study process and generalizing findings

Step 8: Summarize and Share Findings

- using notes from the debrief, a final report is created detailing what we learned about our research goal
- the report provides generalizations teachers can use in future lessons/units/planning
- using our findings, we refine our research goal and decide on next steps