**Grade 4, ELA – Inferencing Lesson**

It was a pleasure to watch you work with your students the other day as you introduced the skill of inferencing from context clues with your class. Interactions between you and your students consistently reflect a genuine warmth and care for their individuality (2a). You clearly have created a classroom environment where respect is a two-way street. I am always so impressed with how well you know your students beyond the classroom. Because you show sincere interest in their lives beyond your classroom walls, your students enjoy being with you and in turn, this positive relationship helps to set the stage for an absence of behavioral issues during the lesson (2d). With this kind of mutual respect, concern, and civility, you are poised to push deeper thinking and rigor.

Therefore, because your students willingly take risks to share their thinking, you are in a position to consider increasing the complexity of questioning prompts and the tasks to scaffold your lesson. The pre-determined answers suggested a single path of inquiry (3b), though it was clear that you were well-prepared to teach this lesson with five examples. After the third example, the predictable structure of the lesson showed that most students were able to grasp the concept, and would likely have benefitted from more complex texts or examples to intellectually challenge their understanding (3b). Our school-wide focus on formative assessments might help in future lessons, like a fist-to-five, or thumbs-up-down to gauge how your students understand the lesson before making a decision to move forward with the group after hearing from one or two students as you did in this lesson (3d). Additionally, you might consider using an exit ticket at the end of the lesson in order to purposefully group students for the following day.

As always, I so enjoyed being a part of your classroom this week. Indeed, it’s always a treat! I will make sure to follow-up with you in the near future to discuss what strategy you’ve tried and how the outcomes made you think differently about your practice. As always, my door’s always open if you have pressing questions and/or concerns. Keep up the great work!