

ARTHUR AND ROCHELLE BELFER

Exemplary LESSONS

i n i t i a t i v e

LESSON TEMPLATE

(ADAPTED FROM TEMPLATE BY RON RITCHHART, PROJECT ZERO, HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION)

BEFORE CONSTRUCTING THE LESSON

- **Construct a brief synopsis of the content of the lesson.** What focus, problem, or issue does the lesson seek to address? Why is it important for students to understand?
- **Consider how this lesson fits within the course you teach.** What is the time frame of the unit and the focus of the course?
- **Consider the classroom preparation necessary for the lesson to be successful.** Where does this lesson fall in the syllabus? What lessons must the teacher have already presented? How are they followed up?

LESSON MODEL

Purpose

- **Provide an overview of what you are trying to accomplish in this lesson in narrative form.** Generally, why is this lesson important and worthwhile for the learning of your students?
- **Provide specific goals and objectives for the lesson.**
- **Provide a reference to the specific state, district, or national standards that you are working with.** How does this lesson connect to a small set of specific standards you are required to address?

Resources and Handouts

- **What background references did you use in shaping and informing your teaching of the lesson?**
- **What resources are used in the lesson?**
- **What handouts are used?**

Narrative

- **Think about the flow of the lesson in major sections.** For each key piece, describe what students are doing and what you the teacher are doing, and why.
- **Make discussion and follow-up questions explicit.**
- **Refer to specific sources and handouts and their use.**
- **Include a time frame for subactivities.**



Assessment

- **How do you assess or evaluate this lesson?**
- **What do you look for as you are teaching?** Assessment can be formal or informal, but it needs to be fleshed out. If a rubric is used, consider how the criteria of the rubric were generated and shared.

Re-evaluation

- **In teaching this unit, perhaps over several years, what are your observations about how it works?** What are students getting out of it? How it can be changed and modified or pushed in different directions? What challenges does the lesson present to you as a teacher?