

GLEAM[®] Instruction Lesson Planning Tool



A Resource for Instructional Leaders

Effective lesson planning is the foundation of GLEAM Instruction, grade-level, engaging, affirming, and meaningful. But knowing what good planning looks like and being able to name it in an instructional conversation with a teacher are two different things. This tool is designed to help leaders and teachers develop a shared understanding of what strong lesson preparation looks like, regardless of content area or grade-level.

The definitions and questions below provide a brief overview of the principles of GLEAM Instruction in action.








<p>Grade-Level Instruction</p> <p>GL</p>	<p>Is aligned with the grade-appropriate college and career standards</p> <p>What's being taught? Are all students working with grade-appropriate content?</p>
<p>Engaging Instruction</p> <p>E</p>	<p>Fosters active learning, persistence, and agency by leveraging students' assets</p> <p>Who's doing the thinking: teachers or students? Are students actively persisting through challenging work with support?</p>
<p>Affirming Instruction</p> <p>A</p>	<p>Builds a collaborative learning community by uplifting every student</p> <p>Is there one perspective, or are there many? Do students see value in themselves and their experiences?</p>
<p>Meaningful Instruction</p> <p>M</p>	<p>Cultivates civic agency and critical thinking by making learning relevant to issues beyond the classroom</p> <p>Why does this matter? Can students relate this learning to their real-world context?</p>

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Use this tool to:

- Review a lesson plan independently before a classroom visit
- Guide a pre-observation conversation with a teacher
- Support a collaborative planning session

This resource introduces a selection of the planning practices from the full GLEAM Instruction Lesson Planning Tool. Each practice includes a guiding question and a short set of criteria to help leaders notice what is and isn't planned for – and open a conversation about what would strengthen the lesson.

Practice	Notes
HQIM 	
Are the curriculum materials the foundation of this lesson, or has the teacher worked around them? Checklist included in full resource.	
Asset-Based Learning  	
Where in this lesson do students' own knowledge, experiences, and identities become tools for accessing the content? Checklist included in full resource.	
Collective Learning  	
Does the plan name how every student will contribute to the thinking, or does it assume collaboration will happen naturally? Checklist included in full resource.	
Scaffolding  	
Do the supports in this plan maintain grade-level expectations, or do they replace the cognitive work students should be doing? Checklist included in full resource.	

*This resource includes four of the seven planning practices from the full GLEAM[®] Instruction Lesson Planning Tool. The complete tool includes additional practices, planning criteria, and space for notes to support deeper planning conversations with teachers.