Three Phases of Effective Feedback

To determine which level of feedback is most appropriate for a given situation, think about the student's acquisition of new knowledge and skills. The type of feedback to provide depends on the level of instruction and learning.



TASK LEVEL

USE: New material (or material student struggled with on pre-assessment)



FOCUS ON:

- Distinguishing correct from incorrect answers
- Acquiring more or different information
- · Building more surface knowledge
- Reteaching and providing multiple opportunities to learn



SAMPLE PROMPTS:

- Does your answer meet the success criteria?
- Is your answer correct/incorrect?
- · How can you elaborate on the answer?
- What did you do well?
- · Where did you go wrong?
- · What is the correct answer?

PROCESS LEVEL



USE: Student has *some* degree of proficieny with the material



FOCUS ON:

- Relationships among ideas
- Students' strategies for error detection
- · Explicitly learning from errors
- Cueing the learner to different strategies and errors

• What is wrong and why?

- What strategies did you use?
- What is the explanation for the correct answer?
- What other questions can you ask about the task?
- What are the relationships with other parts of the task?

SELF-REGULATION LEVEL



USE: Student has *high* degree of proficiency with the material



FOCUS ON:

- Being able to create internal feedback and self-assess
- Being willing to invest effort in seeking and dealing with feedback information
- Being able to review work to decide if an answer is correct
- Knowing to seek help to find additional information or to confirm a response



SAMPLE PROMPTS:

- How can you monitor your own work?
- How can you carry out self-checking?
- How can you evaluate the information provided?
- How can you reflect on your own learning?
- What did you do to ______
- What might you do differently next time?
- · How could you improve this work?

REFLECTION ACTIVITY: GIVING FEEDBACK TO STUDENTS

Using the prompts to the right, reflect on your experiences giving and receiving feedback. Complete this on your own or with colleagues, and discuss your reflections.

- What types of effective feedback do you give students?
- How do you know when your students need to move to the next level of feedback?
- · Does the feedback you give to students match the instructional level they are working at?
- What actions do you take as a result of the feedback you give (task, process, self-regulation)? How do you modify your instruction?