

Essential Features of Classroom Inquiry and Their Variations

FEATURE	Less.....Learner Self –Direction.....More	Direction from Teacher or Material.....Less	More	Less
1. Learner engages in scientifically oriented questions	A. Learner engages in question provided by teacher, materials, or other source	B. Learner sharpens or clarifies question provided by teacher, materials, or other source	C. Learner selects among questions, poses new questions	D. Learner poses a question
2. Learner gives priority to evidence in responding to questions	A. Learner given data and told how to analyze	B. Learner given data and asked to analyze	C. Learner directed to collect certain data and guided in how to analyze it	D. Learner determines what constitutes evidence, as well as how to collect and analyze it
3. Learner formulates explanations from evidence	A. Learner provided with evidence and explanation	B. Learner given possible ways to use evidence to formulate an explanation	C. Learner guided in process of formulating explanations from evidence	D. Learner formulates explanation after summarizing evidence
4. Learner connects explanations to scientific knowledge	A. Learner given all connections between explanations and existing scientific knowledge	B. Learner given possible connections between explanations and existing scientific knowledge	C. Learner directed toward areas and sources of scientific knowledge in order to make connections to explanations	D. Learner independently examines other resources and forms connections to explanations
5. Learner communicates and justifies explanations	A. Learner given steps and procedures for justifying and communicating explanations	B. Learner provided guidelines to use to sharpen justification and communication of explanations	C. Learner coached in development of guidelines for justification and communication of explanations	D. Learner forms reasonable and logical arguments to communicate explanations