

Conferences with Students During Game Play

Conferences are conversations with students about their learning. They give teachers an opportunity to assess the needs of individual learners in their classrooms. Conferences should occur while students are playing the games. While the group is working independently, the teacher can confer one-one-one with a student.

WHAT ARE THE STEPS TO FOLLOW?

1. **Observe:** Observe the student silently as he/she plays the game.
2. **Take Notes:** Record areas of strength as well as areas of potential difficulties.
3. **Ask Questions:** Is the student using a particular strategy to win? Ask the student to explain and demonstrate the strategy he/she is using. Can the student show you another strategy? Would that strategy work as well as the first strategy? Why or why not?
4. **Share:** Rearticulate the object of the game. Ask students to share strategies they used to win the game. Ask them what they thought was most challenging about the game and why.
5. **Record Keeping:** Take notes to record your conference.