

# Lesson Study

A Collaborative Professional Development Tool

## 1. Study

- The group considers long-term goals for student learning and development.
- They study curriculum and standards, looking for an area to direct their efforts.
- The focus is on a particular group of students and their needs as compared to the group's long-term goals for these students.
- This stage of the cycle typically takes 1-4

## 2. Plan

- The group selects or revises a research lesson.
- They plan the lesson collaboratively, starting with available units and lessons.
- During this phase, the group members are building:
  - ▶ Knowledge of available resources
  - ▶ Divergent pedagogical approaches
  - ▶ Connection to colleagues
  - ▶ Shared ownership of student learning
- This stage of the cycle typically takes 3-10 hours.

## 3. Teach

- One member of the group teaches the research lesson.
- The other members observe and collect data.
- The focus is on the student learning.
- The group is developing observational skills and a grasp of student learning.
- Other "Knowledgeable Experts" may be invited.
- No one may interfere with the lesson as it was planned.
- This stage of the cycle typically takes one class period.

## 4. Reflect

- The group shares data, following a formal protocol.
- Reflection focuses on:
  - ▶ What was learned about student learning?
  - ▶ What was learned about lesson design?
  - ▶ What are the implications for this lesson and instruction in general?
- The group decides whether to further refine and re-teach this lesson or focus on a new lesson.
- This stage of the cycle typically takes 1-2 hours.