

'Debriefing' Methods & Best Practices with Adult Learners



Debrief: Question about a mission or undertaking

Debriefing: a meeting that takes place in order to get information about a particular piece of work that has been finished, for example about what was done successfully and what was not.

1-10 Scale Method	After the learning has happened, the teacher/presenter asks the learner "On a scale of 1-10, 10 being the best, how was that experience?" After listening to their answer, ask "what would have made it a 10?" Take notes and then decide if those are recommendations you would like to incorporate next time you teach. Use: to solicit feedback from audience/learner, or a person you asked to observe the learning environment.
The Gap	The gap method is a series of questions asked after a Level 1 or 2 instructor has taught and the learner is no longer present.
Identifying the 'gap' between what the instructor thought would happen and what actually happened, and how to be more on target next time.	 What did you visualize would happen during the lesson? What actually happened during the lesson? What do you think contributed to the gap between the visual/plan and the reality of how the lesson went down? What are you going to keep doing from this experience/lesson? What are you going to change next time based on the gap you identified? Optional: in a practicum situation, the other instructors may share their ideas based on prior experience or knowledge to help coach on how to shorten the 'learning gap' the certifying Level 1 or 2 instructor has identified. Use: When the learner is in charge of setting up the environment and plan. Also, for the first time they are trying a lesson out to construct notes on how to make their teaching/presenting better.
Highlight / Lowlight / Insight	This method is used for a quick group debrief. To perform, each person shares what their Highlight – best part; Lowlight – not so enjoyable; and Insight –what they gained or learned from the experience. (If using for a youth audience, use 'highs' and 'lows', and leave off insight).

Checklist	This situation is set up after a teaching scenario, and there is a planned observation period. This is highly individualized to provide concrete feedback. A prime time to use this is following practicum. Ahead of time, the instructor prepares a checklist of competencies being taught in the class or learning experience. After each competency, the instructor will use the rubric to provide feedback to the learner. The instructor then observes and makes comments on each individual (or group if performing as a team), and reviews with the person or group what was observed, and creates discussion on successes and improvements.											
								Competency: STEM Teaching	Did nat observe this	Observed a little of this	Observed a proficient amount	
								Used STEM vocabulary Had/used visual aids				
		Shared what the learner would do and learn										
		Allowed the learner to go through the scientific method Used the 'reflect'										
		questions Used the 'apply' questions										
	Use: When observation is critical to learning, and competency is being measured versus knowledge which could have been done on a paper-pencil test.											
	Success Outcome	The Success Markers starts with an outcome. Then a chart is developed to identify behaviors that need to be built upon.										
	Markers	Expect – what are the behaviors a participant must have before a successful program can be evaluated?										
Like – what are emerging behaviors that come after 'expect'? Love – what are some higher order skills that will lead to successful programs because of behavior?												
Expect to See,	Tip: Keep each level to 3-4 behaviors/skills.											
Like to See,												
Love to See	Expect – The instructor will make nametags, and use the participants' names during 4-H experience.											
	Like – The 4-H leader will meet with small groups to help the individual set goals. Love – The 4-H leaders (or club volunteers) will meet one-on-one to go over goal accomplishments and/or set up a plan to accomplish goals.											
	Use: when you desire transformational learning where people are expected to master competencies over time, and the instructor has set clear outcomes that are achievable and a progression of mastery is possible.											