

Values Discovery Activity
Step 1: Initial Interview

This exercise invites the teacher to identify his or her values within the context of education and teaching. Coaches are encouraged to consider what is best for each individual teacher, adapting the activity to meet the teacher's unique needs. The activity can be completed as described below (i.e., using the Value Discovery Cards) or in a discussion format.

1. Introduce the activity by saying; "I'd like to learn more about the values that are most important to you in your teaching, and what your hopes are for the students in your classroom - now and in their future."
2. Give the Value Discovery Cards to the teacher and ask that they review them and then select the 2-3 values that they see as most important to them as a teacher.
3. Once the teacher is finished, facilitate a conversation around why the teacher selected those three values that they did

Teacher Values Discovery Cards

<p>Acceptance/Tolerance</p> <p>To model and teach acceptance and respect for differences.</p>	<p>Family</p> <p>To involve families in the education of their students.</p>
<p>Cooperation</p> <p>To model and teach cooperation and collaborative work with others.</p>	<p>Independence</p> <p>To provide learning activities that foster independence in students.</p>
<p>Responsibility</p> <p>To model and teach reliability and responsible decision-making.</p>	<p>Community</p> <p>To create a classroom community that models civility.</p>
<p>Friendships</p> <p>To foster and support the development of friendships among students in my classroom.</p>	<p>Job/Occupation</p> <p>To reinforce the importance of education in students' future career choices.</p>
<p>Pleasure/Fun</p> <p>To provide students the opportunity to have fun and play.</p>	<p>Abilities/Skills</p> <p>To provide learning activities that foster highly competent abilities/skills.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Diverse Education</p> <p style="text-align: center;">To help students learn and grow in their understanding of the world.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Self-esteem and Confidence</p> <p style="text-align: center;">To help students feel good about themselves and accept themselves as they are.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Health</p> <p style="text-align: center;">To model and teach physical wellbeing and healthy lifestyles.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Emotional and Physical Safety</p> <p style="text-align: center;">To provide a safe and secure environment for all students in my classroom.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Achievement</p> <p style="text-align: center;">To support students' learning and achievement.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Mentoring</p> <p style="text-align: center;">To guide others in the process of becoming effective teachers.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Very Important</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Write your own value:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">_____</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Not Important</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Important</p>