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STANDARD 2: LEARNING TASKS HAVE HIGH COGNITIVE DEMAND FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS

INDICATORS

What Teachers Need to Demonstrate	Mandatory Evidence Sources of Instructional Practice	Optional Evidence Sources of Instructional Practice	Description/Notes
<p>Indicator 1 Tasks purposefully employ all students' cognitive abilities and skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct evaluator observation • One confirmatory item from optional evidence source 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher pre/post conference • Student classroom interviews • Student work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All students refers to the diversity found in all classrooms: various levels of learning, working pace, experience, and backgrounds (e.g., language, culture, SES) • Cognitive abilities include (but are not limited to) reasoning, planning, solving problems, evaluating, synthesizing, comprehending, and designing • Skills refer to the capacity or competence to perform a task; they can range from simple levels (e.g., actions performed as a result of repeated practice) to higher levels (e.g., application of different tasks drawing on understanding and abilities of high order) • Cognitive abilities and skills are increasingly content specific as students' learning develops
<p>Indicator 2 Tasks place appropriate demands on each student</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct evaluator observation • Student classroom interviews 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher pre/post conference • Student work • Student feedback (e.g., survey, writing) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tasks require cognitive effort from all students; that is, tasks match students in appropriately challenging ways (e.g., not too easy, not too hard) • Tasks should not be "one-size fits all"
<p>Indicator 3 Tasks progressively develop all students' cognitive abilities and skills</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct evaluator observation • One confirmatory item from optional evidence source 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher pre/post conference • Lesson plans • Teacher notes • Student work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teacher designs and structures tasks that allow for deep rather than superficial learning • Tasks are not discrete but connected to a larger sequence of learning • Tasks are connected to overall goals of the lesson, unit, or standard • Observers, when observing a lesson, should ask themselves: (1) Are the tasks worth doing? and (2) Are they worth the students' time?

Indicator 4

Teacher operates with a deep belief that all children can achieve regardless of race, perceived ability and socio-economic status.

- Direct evaluator observation
- One confirmatory item from optional evidence source

- Teacher pre/post conference
- Lesson plans
- Teacher notes
- Student work

- Teacher serves all students well regardless of family background, socio-economic status, or ability.
- Teacher has an expectation that all children can achieve at high levels,
- The teacher takes an active role in ensuring that students have equitable opportunities to achieve