

The CAFE Book Framing Questions

Discuss The CAFE Book (Ch. 1 & 2) with the following framing questions:

- What stands out for you as the most significant aspect of these chapters?
- As a classroom teacher, what could you relate to in this reading?
- What is your perspective on grouping children by strategy instruction and not level (p. 7)? What might the pros and cons of this strategy be?
- What question(s) do you still have after reading these chapters?*(included in every discussion from this point forward)

Discuss The CAFE Book (Ch. 3) with the following framing questions:

- What stands out for you as the most significant idea in this chapter?
- Given what you experienced with introducing the Daily 5 this quarter, how do you see these plans meshing during the first week of school? How might you make this work for you?

Discuss The CAFE Book (Ch. 4) with the following framing questions:

- The Sisters say that they had to change some of their assumptions about conferencing as they developed the CAFÉ model (p. 50). How does the model of conferencing presented in this chapter fit (or not fit) with the assumptions you already hold about conferences with students?
- In thinking about your own teaching style, how do you think this model of conferencing would work for you? What are the positives and negatives in your mind?

Discuss The CAFE Book (Ch. 5 & 6) with the following framing question:

- What was significant for you in this reading? Please share a passage/idea that was important to you and the implications for you as a teacher.

Discuss The CAFE Book (Ch. 7 and Conclusion) with the following framing question:

- How has reading CAFÉ affected the way you think about literacy instruction?

Further discussions of The CAFE Book

- How could CAFE principles be applied in a flexible grouping scenario?
- How would a Pensieve look for flexible grouping purposes? Paper? Electronic? Both?
- Which strategies should be included on a CAFÉ menu in second grade?