Effective Peer Feedback

BEFORE students give and receive peer feedback...

Model effective feedback practices. By giving students effective feedback, you’re also teaching them how to give feedback. Consider ways you can also model effective ways of receiving feedback.

Discuss the benefits of peer feedback with students. When students understand the value of peer feedback and discover how it is relevant in and out of school, they’re more likely to take the work seriously.

Facilitate practice sessions. Share examples of student work, ask students to identify and explain problems and provide suggestions, and have students discuss as a class or in small groups.

AS students give and receive peer feedback....

Provide a feedback template. A template can help students provide effective feedback. Templates should be designed to help students explain problems and offer solutions and not ask them to evaluate or place judgements on their peers’ products or capabilities.

Provide criteria or categories. Suggest categories to help students focus their feedback. Provide a rubric to guide students as they provide feedback, but avoid asking students to use rubrics for peer evaluations.

Encourage conversations. Students should record feedback and also discuss it with the person they’re giving it to.

Help students take action. Feedback is only effective if students use it! Help students identify appropriate actions and take steps forward.