




# Reflect and Connect: Developmentally Appropriate Teaching Series

Content Area: Instructional Interactions

## Read and Take Notes

To begin, read the selected article, *Spark Creative Thinking Throughout the Day: Adding Open-Ended Questions to Your Routine*, written by Pittsburgh Public Schools Early Childhood Coaches of 2016 and published in the April/May 2020 issue of *Teaching Young Children*. As you read the article, take notes of statements that you agree with, that surprise you, and that you have questions about using the notations in the table below.

I agree with	surprise me	I have questions about
		

## Reflect

1. Select a project topic used in your classroom (e.g., buildings, pets). Re-write questions for classroom areas to connect new content knowledge and vocabulary in a way that encourages children to showcase their knowledge.
2. Identify a familiar routine for families in their home or community (e.g., laundry, grocery shopping, mealtimes). Write a list of open-ended questions that would prompt family connection to classroom content with children outside the classroom.

## Connect

1. Share your notes and reflections through conversation with your team.
2. Based on your reflections, identify an initial change idea to improve your practice. Make a plan for action.
3. What resources do you need to be successful (e.g., materials, specific information, a thought partner)?
4. How will you and/or others recognize that this change was met and led to improvement?

5. Schedule a time to check back in with your team to reflect, and connect!