Strengths Reference—Coaching Hack!

This is a reference sheet to provide examples of how coaches can identify what teachers are doing well (using some education-ese ©).

Coaches will be able to think of many more ideas, but brain freeze happens. Hope this helps!

| General Delivery | Relationships | Content | Student Work | Student Interactions | Presence | Planning | Procedures |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| -Directions were | -Specific interactions | -Significant | -Your modeling of | -Group work was | -You have a | -Learning goals and | -Behavioral |
| clear and concise (no | showing evidence of | | how to complete the | well organized: each | contagious smile! | | |
| | | preparation of | • | | | purposes for learning | expectations, |
| rambling or | your care and | content was evident: | work assigned was | student had a | -Your professional | the content were | including what |
| confusing off-topic | concern for students | 1) Use of technology | excellent; students | responsibility, and all | attire showed respect | made clear to | happens when |
| comments). | were noted: | to address topic, with | knew exactly what to | students were | for yourself, the | students verbally, and | expectations are |
| -The number of steps | 1) When Joey came | previously prepared | do and how to do it. | accountable for work | students, and the | the learning goal was | followed or not |
| students were asked | in late, you checked | student-created slides | -Student assignments | completion. | teaching profession. | visible throughout | followed, were clear, |
| to remember when | in with him to see if | 2) Leveled notes | and assessments were | -When students were | -You have an | the lesson. | visible, to the point, |
| you gave directions | everything was okay. | provided support for | aligned with your | allowed time to | organized, clutter- | -How students could | reasonable, and |
| was appropriate for | 2) You greeted | EL students | learning goals. | discuss the topic with | free classroom. | achieve the learning | consistently |
| their developmental | students at the door | 3) Engaging and | -Both you and your | a partner, you had | -You appropriately | goals, and how they | implemented. |
| level. | with a smile and | easy-to-follow | students knew | them first write their | referenced and | would show what | -Students knew and |
| -Pacing of the lesson | asked them questions | demonstration, with | exactly how and | ideas down for a few | consistently | they learned, was not | followed procedures |
| was quick enough to | specific to their lives | previously prepared | when their work was | minutes and then | implemented | a mystery to you or | for asking questions, |
| hold students' | and interests. | kinesthetic materials | going to be assessed, | discuss their | previously | your students. | getting notebooks, |
| interest, and | 3) You | 4) Math lesson on | so you were able to | thoughts. This | determined | -Your lessons fit | sharpening pencils, |
| differentiation | enthusiastically | solving equations | do it quickly and | allowed more | expectations and | strategically into a | working with |
| strategies for students | called Sara's parents | showed effective use | provide timely | processing time for | procedures. | logical sequence | partners, going to the |
| who needed more | when she won the | of and alignment | feedback. | students and helped | -You intentionally | aligned with content | bathroom, managing |
| time for processing | review game. | with district math | -Student assignments | keep the | and appropriately | standards. | transitions such as |
| and completing work | -Positive and | curriculum. | were interesting and | conversations on | used humor. | -You effectively | the beginning and |
| were provided | inspiring messages | 5) Content support | relevant. It was | target. | -You made it a point | designed a formative | end of class, moving |
| -You used a variety | for and about | stations and | obvious you had | -Students were not | to listen to students | assessment that | around the room, etc. |
| of powerful learning | students, including | resources for | tailored the | afraid to share their | and tried to find ways | provided student data | |

| strategies: music, | their academic work, | common challenging | assignment to | thoughts; they asked | to say yes to any | to inform tomorrow's | -Your procedures |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| visual images, | are visible in your | grade-level | address student | clarifying questions | request you could. | instruction. | included time set |
| stories, exemplars, | classroom. | misconceptions were | interests. | and persevered | -Your students | -Your understanding | aside for positive |
| manipulatives, | -Mutual respect | made available to | -The length of the | during | understand they are | of brain research was | interactions, such as |
| foldables, student | between students and | students. | assignment was | productive struggles. | important and have a | evident in your | your "joke of the |
| notebooks, analogies, | teacher was regularly | 6) Students created | appropriate for | -Opportunities were | voice in their | planning, as you | day" and time for |
| etc. | exhibited. | an order of | students' | provided for students | learning. | included brain breaks | students to share |
| -Your presence was | -One of your students | operations flipbook | developmental level. | to lead their learning. | -You allowed time | when necessary, | positive experiences. |
| positive and | had a note you had | resource to organize | -Students had been | Students were able to | for student questions | movement, games, | -You use a variety of |
| confident; | written to him glued | and reference to | taught how to | choose how to show | and comments. | music, storytelling, | strategies to regularly |
| preparation was | into the front of his | support important | organize notes and | mastery of content: | -You expertly blend a | and manipulatives. | check for student |
| evident. Students | notebook. | math content. | work and knew | project, research | confident and strong | | understanding |
| could trust you knew | | | where to turn work | paper, visual display, | presence with | | throughout the |
| what you were | | | in—no papers were | electronic | novelty and kindness | | lesson: response |
| talking about and | | | lost. | presentations, | creating order, trust, | | cards, hand signals, |
| were happy you were | | | | speeches, etc. | and fun! | | monitoring, |
| their teacher! | | | | | | | whiteboards. |