



CREATING SCHOOLS THAT WORK FOR ALL OF US

A GUIDE TO EMPOWERED STEWARDSHIP

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With Contributions from Wade Antonio Colwell

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Appendix C: Recommended Engagement Strategies for Each Phase of Inquiry

The YES Collaborative Inquiry Process is a liberatory, equity-centered model that blends human-centered and liberatory design to move from reflection to transformative action. Grounded in empathy, iteration, and co-creation, it is comprised of six phases: Notice & Disrupt, Empathize & Deepen Awareness, Define & Reframe, Ideate & Imagine Beyond Constraints, Prototype & Co-Create, and Evaluate & Sustain. The phases guide educators and students in dismantling inequities and co-creating just learning environments. Cyclical and adaptive, this process centers historically marginalized voices, ensuring sustained, community-driven change.

This list mirrors what you will find within the descriptions of each stream in Section 2 and even in the narrative inquiry example from Part 4 of Section 1 in this book, but is meant to help you make determinations about which engagement strategies you might use in different phases of inquiry.

Remember that inquiry is not a linear process and that strategies such as Glow and Grow: Student Reflection on Teacher Practice or Seven Commitments Action Research Project from Stream 4 may initially first be used later in the inquiry process, but then may be pulled back out as you notice or empathize in new inquiry cycles. Also, the great majority of these engagement strategies support your understanding of or ability to gather evidence regarding yourselves, your students, and your community and that information can become necessary during any of the six phases.

Phase 1: Notice and Disrupt

- The Achievement Triangle (Stream 1)
- School Outcomes Assessment (Stream 1)
- Definition of Stewardship (Stream 2)
- What is Culture? (Stream 2)
- Culture Toss (Stream 2)
- Stages of Growth (Stream 2)
- Personal Growth Project (Stream 2)
- We The People (Stream 3)
- The Dynamics of Social Dominance (Stream 3)
- Shifting the Emotional Paradigm (Stream 5)

Phase 2: Empathize and Deepen Awareness

- The Achievement Triangle (Stream 1)
- Community Agreements (Stream 1)
- School Outcomes Assessment (Stream 1)
- Lenses of Difference (Stream 2)
- Definition of Stewardship (Stream 2)
- What is Culture? (Stream 2)
- Culture Toss (Stream 2)
- Stages of Personal Growth (Stream 2)
- Personal Growth Project (Stream 2)
- In My One Beat (Stream 2)
- We The People (Stream 3)
- The Dynamics of Social Dominance (Stream 3)
- Glow and Grow: Student Reflection on Teacher Practice (Stream 4)
- Seven Commitments Assessment (Stream 4)
- Learning From and With Colleagues (Stream 4)
- Seven Commitments Action Research Project (Stream 4)
- Seven Commitments Student-Centered Project (Stream 4)
- Shifting the Emotional Paradigm (Stream 5)

Phase 3: Define and Reframe

- The Achievement Triangle (Stream 1)
- The four A's and Applying the Four A's (Stream 1)
- Definition of Stewardship (Stream 2)
- What is Culture? (Stream 2)
- Culture Toss (Stream 2)
- Stages of Growth (Stream 2)
- Personal Growth Project (Stream 2)
- Justice in the Words of Elders (Stream 3)

Phase 4: Ideate and Imagine

- The Achievement Triangle (Stream 1)
- School Outcomes Assessment (Stream 1)
- Catalysts for Growth (Stream 1)
- Definition of Stewardship (Stream 2)
- What is Culture? (Stream 2)
- Justice in the Words of Elders (Stream 3)
- Shifting the Emotional Paradigm (Stream 5)

Phase 5: Prototype and Co-Create

- The Achievement Triangle (Stream 1)
- School Outcomes Assessment (Stream 1)
- Catalysts for Growth (Stream 1)
- The four A's and Applying the Four A's (Stream 1)
- Definition of Stewardship (Stream 2)
- What is Culture? (Stream 2)
- Justice in the Words of Elders (Stream 3)
- Seven Commitments Assessment (Stream 4)
- Learning From and With Colleagues (Stream 4)
- Seven Commitments Action Research Project (Stream 4)
- Seven Commitments Student-Centered Project (Stream 4)
- Creative Resistance – Systemic (Stream 5)

Phase 6: Investigate and Evaluate

- The Achievement Triangle (Stream 1)
- The four A's and Applying the Four A's (Stream 1)
- Definition of Stewardship (Stream 2)
- What is Culture? (Stream 2)
- Justice in the Words of Elders (Stream 3)
- Glow and Grow: Student Reflection on Teacher Practice (Stream 4)
- Seven Commitments Assessment (Stream 4)
- Learning From and With Colleagues (Stream 4)
- Seven Commitments Action Research Project (Stream 4)
- Seven Commitments Student-Centered Project (Stream 4)