

“Withitness” Activity

The goal of this discussion was to get participants to really start thinking about the concept of “withitness.”

- Describe a teacher you had in K-12 school who you think demonstrated withitness
- Why is withitness so important?
- Rate yourself on withitness 1-10, 10 being the highest
- What strategies can you think of to improve your withitness?

* Marzano, R.J. (2003). *Classroom management that works: Research-based strategies for every teacher*. Alexandria, VA: ASCD.

Memories of your favorite teacher:

Examples from the workshop:

- ✓ Sense of humor
- ✓ Confident, she knew what she was doing
- ✓ Enthusiastic, interest in what she is doing
- ✓ Modeled problems; kept getting more challenging
- ✓ Felt that you were in capable hands; concerned about personal life and well-being
- ✓ Neat and orderly; simply, quietly taught

Comments on teachers from “withitness” video:

Examples from the workshop:

- ✓ Room arrangements; you can see everyone
- ✓ Students in groups; group that is finished helped others
- ✓ Not giving too much attention to misbehavior; move on, quiet voice
- ✓ Building relationships in a comfortable environment
- ✓ Excited about science
- ✓ Teacher complimenting students about their performance in class
- ✓ Only talk to students in a certain voice, expected from them as well
- ✓ Don't internalize negative; work on own emotions
- ✓ Scan the room more
- ✓ Move around the room
- ✓ Observing other teachers