

NE714 Feedback for learning

Ways to use feedback: gifts, ping-pongs and loops

Feedback Analogy	Role of Teacher and Goals of Teaching	Feedback Discourse
A Gift	 Expert To impart new knowledge, concepts and skills. Students as passive recipients. 	 Traditional discourse in which 'expert' gives information to others to help them improve. Primary goal to evaluate. Feedback is a gift.
Ping-pong	 Expert To facilitate discovery of new knowledge, concepts, skills. To help make connections, discover meaning and gain new insights. Students participate, teacher still in control. 	 Expanded discourse in which 'expert' enables other to gain new understandings, make sense of experiences and make connections by the use of open questions and shared insight. Primary goal to describe and discuss. Feedback is a two-way process – ping-pong.
Loops	 More equal power dynamic Teacher is viewed and views himself or herself as a learner. To facilitate discovery of new knowledge, concepts and skills. To help make connections, discover meaning and gain new insights. To practise self-reflection and facilitate a reflexive process in others about learning through collaborative dialogue. 	 Expanded discourse involving a reciprocal process of talking about learning. Primary goal to illuminate learning for all. Feedback is a dialogue, formed by loops connecting the participants.

Adapted from: Askew, S. & Lodge, C. (2000). Gifts, ping-pong and loops - linking feedback and learning. In S. Askew (ed.). Feedback for Learning. pp.1-17. London: Routledge Falmer.