



Select a Lesson to video...

- **Determine** what you want to demonstrate to others.
- **Identify** a lesson to videotape.
- **Choose** a lesson that is approximately 30 minutes in length.

Describe...

- **Context** including grade level, students, and subject.
- **Objectives** of the lesson and the learning activity featured.
- **Teaching** strategy employed in the clip, why you selected this strategy, and how it relates to the learning needs of your class.
- **How** the learning environment was organized so that all students would be engaged in learning.
- **Assessments** formal, informal, or both that are utilized in the lesson.
- **What**, if anything, you saw in the videotape that you were unaware of when you were taping.
- **Summarize** what went well and what you might do differently.
- **How** your video illustrates one or more of the characteristics of the novice teacher.

Keep in mind these prompts when asked to respond to the Videotape Analysis Assignment.

People And Permission

Prepare...

- **Complete** permission slips for students who will be photographed or videotaped. Many schools have already secured permission at the beginning of the school year for activities such as these.
- **For** children who do not have permission to be videotaped, you will have to make sure they are not included in your teaching video.
- **Find** someone to videotape you while you are teaching.

Tips...

- **Make** sure the video camera battery is fully charged.
- **Mount** the video camera on a tripod if one is available.
- **Practice** using the camera in the classroom before the actual taping
 - *Do you know how the equipment works?*
 - *Are you and your students comfortable being videotaped? Using the camera in the classroom prior to the day you video tape, will allow all to be more comfortable and act naturally. This would also you and your students to get used to the video camera and check for problems (e.g. lighting and sound).*
 - *Is the lighting in your classroom is adequate?*
 - *Is the microphone capturing your voice as well as your students? If the sound quality is not great on your practice tape, consider attaching an external microphone to yourself.*
- **Turn off** fans, fish tanks, or anything else that makes too much background noise.
- **Think** about what you want the person taping you to focus on. You should not be the entire focus of the lesson and neither should your students. Have the person videotaping use a blend of you and your students, zooming in on your or your students or your students' work.

Video Equipment And the Classroom

Battery charged?

- **Set** the video camera to **automatic focus** as opposed to manual focus so the camera will automatically adjust to what is being taped.
- **Start** with the camera zoomed out so that you, your students, and your classroom are captured. At key points have the camera person zoom in on the activity.
- **Record** the entire lesson / student activity. *Later* you will select parts of your lesson that you want to include in your electronic portfolio.

