

From: **The Practice of Authentic PLCs: A Guide to Effective Teacher Teams**
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NOTICE & WONDER PROTOCOL - Data

A protocol for analyzing data both descriptively and inferentially

TIME: 40 minutes

I. Participants are presented with a table and/or graph of data pertaining to their practice. The data may be displayed on a screen for all to see, or it may be given to each PLC member in hardcopy form. (I prefer the former, since graphs and sometimes data in table form are often illustrated in color.)

II. Each participant is given a 5 x 7 index card. Quietly and individually, participants write three observations evident in the graph or table. These observations must be free of inference or speculation; they are factually based from objectively examining the display. Each observation starts with the phrase *"I notice that..."* (5 min)

III. Round 1. In turn, each participant reads aloud one new observation that has not yet been shared, each time beginning with the phrase *"I notice that..."* The facilitator records the responses on chart paper. After the last participant shares one new observation, the first participant offers a second new observation and the process continues until all observations have been shared aloud, *without discussion.* (5 min)

IV. Each participant turns over his index card and quietly writes three speculations or question-statements based on the observations heard in Round 1. These speculations attempt to offer possible explanations for the observations, or pose suggestions for pursuing additional data. No attempt should be made to *solve* the problems that surface; the intent is to gain insights into what the data suggest, how the data are connected and what the data imply. Each speculation starts with the phrase *"I wonder why..."* or *"I wonder if..."* (5 min)

V. Round 2. In turn, each participant reads aloud one new speculation that has not yet been shared, each time beginning with the phrase *"I wonder..."* The facilitator records the responses on chart paper. This process continues as in Round 1 until all speculations have been shared aloud, *without discussion.* (10 min)

VI. Discussion. The PLC discusses what has been shared and possible causes, connections and links to classroom instruction and notes other additional data that may be needed. (15 min)