Guiding Questions for Lesson Plan Critique

The purpose of the following questions is to help you look at an Internet lesson plan, and critically review it. The intention is NOT to simply answer the following questions. Use them to prepare a narrative response that is a review, or critique, of the lesson plan.

1. Are adequate descriptive information provided that is clear, distinguishing the subject, grade level, lesson topic, and so forth?

2. Are lesson goals clearly stated, or easily inferred? What do they appear to be?

3. Are instructional objectives clearly stated, or inferred? Do they seem obtainable?

4. Is the rationale for the lesson clear and justifiable (e.g., relevant to content standards)? Or does it seem to be up to you, the reviewer, to determine how this lesson might be appropriate to your teaching needs (e.g., see Reading-Language Arts Framework for California Public Schools)? If so, can you readily identify a rationale for this lesson (other than “this seems like a fun lesson”)?

5. Is the plan’s content appropriate for children at this grade level?

6. Does the plan’s content contribute to achievement of the objectives?

7. Is the instructional plan workable, given the time frame and other logistical considerations impacting classrooms?

8. Does the set (e.g., anticipatory set, or motivation) engage students; is it indeed motivating?

9. Does the plan indicate how guided (or coached) practice will be provided for each child?

10. Are assignments clear, manageable, and related to the lesson objective(s)?

11. Is adequate closure provided to reinforce learning, convey a sense of completeness, and synthesize the content of the lesson?
12. Are materials and supplies suggested? Are they appropriate for the grade level, adequate to meet the needs of all students, and do they contribute to the lesson? Are they readily and/or inexpensively available?

13. Do the evaluative criteria suggested provide observable data to determine how much students have learned from the lesson?

14. Do the evaluative criteria suggested provide observable data to determine how well the teacher accomplished the objective(s)?

15. Is the lesson plan in any way coordinated with other aspects of the school program to provide for integration of subject matter?

16. Does the lesson fit the needs of children by attending to the total child—emotionally, physically, mentally, socially, morally, and ethically?

17. Is the lesson worthwhile?

18. Is a time frame for completing the lesson provided?

Other observations: