PUTTING TEACHING FOR UNDERSTANDING INTO PRACTICE

1. Consider your personal experience.What engaged you as a learner?	
 What did your teachers do or not do to challenge your mind, encourage your thinking, as bring out your ideas? 	nd
• Did you feel a sense of connection as a student, or did you feel marginalized?	
 2. Observe a student who has a different cultural background from yours. Consider the way he or she engages with the learning. Be sure not to stereotype the child generalize his experiences to others with similar backgrounds. 	or
 Ask yourself the following questions: How do I feel when I am teaching this child? 	
O What strengths does he or she bring from her home life?	

0	Do any of her learning behaviors make me uncomfortable? For example, do I feel she is too loud or too quiet?
0	What assumptions am I making about the reasons for her behavior? For example, do I think she is seeking attention or purposely disrupting?
0	What external factors might be influencing her behavior?
0	Are there any alternative explanations that I have not considered?
0	How can I respond differently?
0	Am I making similar assumptions about other students' behaviors?