

102 Things a Mentor Teacher Might Do With a New Teacher

1. Work with the protégé to analyze a lesson plan that did not work.
2. Have a little “party” to celebrate getting through the first week, or first grading period.
3. Remind the protégé of an important form that is due.
4. Introduce the protégé to other staff members.
5. Share an instructional resource with the protégé.
6. Go to lunch with the protégé to celebrate a teaching success.
7. Show the protégé how to access student records.
8. Help the protégé plan a strategy for solving a classroom management problem.
9. Avoid taking personal responsibility for the protégé’s failures.
10. Observe the protégé’s class to collect data on an instructional problem.
11. Listen to the protégé share a personal or professional frustration.
12. Demonstrate an instructional technique.
13. Collaborate with the protégé in planning/teaching a unit.
14. Make a video- or audiotape of the protégé for self-analysis.
15. Attend a workshop with the protégé.
16. Go to breakfast with the protégé once a week.
17. Encourage the protégé to reflect on a critical classroom event.
18. Advise the protégé on how to relate to another staff member.
19. Protect the protégé by maintaining confidentiality.
20. Alert the protégé to a behavior that you know may be self-defeating.
21. Confront and resolve an interpersonal conflict with the protégé.
22. Invite the protégé to a TGIF get-together.
23. Be self-disclosing with the protégé.
24. Assess the protégé’s level of commitment and maturity.
25. Adapt supervisory practice to the protégé’s developmental level.
26. Advise the protégé on the pitfalls of parent conferencing.
27. Sit in on the protégé’s first parent conference to show support.
28. Take the protégé on a tour of the community or school district.
29. Counsel the protégé on a personal problem.
30. Refer the protégé to appropriate resource persons.

31. Encourage the protégé to participate in professional organizations.
32. Invite the protégé to systematically observe your teaching.
33. Hold and express high expectations for the protégé.
34. Be on the lookout for survival behaviors.
35. Give the protégé specific feedback.
36. Patiently answer the protégé's questions.
37. Laugh at oneself.
38. Model professionalism for the protégé.
39. Discuss a current educational issue with the protégé.
40. Help the protégé learn to write better test items.
41. Advise the protégé on how to better manage his or her time.
42. Share a personal success or failure.
43. Be congruent in mentoring beliefs and actions (walk the talk).
44. Remind the protégé of an important building or district policy.
45. Assist the protégé in keeping better student records.
46. Be positive.
47. Ask the protégé's opinion on a professional idea.
48. Brainstorm with the protégé a list of possible solutions to a problem.
49. Know the research on problems and concerns of protégés.
50. Share a professional article with the protégé.
51. Show the protégé how to fill out grade cards.
52. Model a disposition to inquiry.
53. Be open and honest with the protégé.
54. Encourage the protégé to try a new instructional strategy.
55. Hold a pre-observation conference with the protégé.
56. Help the protégé learn how to write better instructional objectives.
57. Advise the protégé of professional opportunities.
58. Display personal enthusiasm for teaching.
59. Positively reinforce a protégé's desirable behavior.
60. Check the protégé for understanding.
61. Use research findings as the focus of systematic observations.
62. Take a personal interest in the protégé's career development.
63. Don't take yourself too seriously.
64. Believe in the meaningfulness of your work.
65. Avoid sending protégés mixed messages.
66. Practice active listening.
67. Assist the protégé in reviewing instructional materials.
68. Provide the protégé with important information on a student.
69. Express the belief that all children can learn.
70. Know what it takes to build a trusting relationship.
71. Help the protégé understand issues on professional ethics.
72. Praise the protégé specifically.

73. Counsel another mentor on a mentoring issue or problem.
74. Encourage the protégé to attend a school athletic event or play.
75. Design and carry out an action research project with the protégé.
76. Help the protégé improve their classroom questioning technique.
77. Demonstrate for the protégé how to begin or close a lesson.
78. Appreciate the complexity of teaching.
79. Be sensitive to the protégé's nonverbal messages.
80. Share personal successes and failures.
81. Show the protégé how to more effectively use instructional technology.
82. Let the protégé know their problems and concerns are not unique.
83. Commend the protégé in front of a colleague.
84. Encourage the protégé to collect and analyze student feedback.
85. Model a positive disposition toward professional growth.
86. Express interest in the protégé's personal hobbies, travels, etc.
87. Advise the protégé on how to resolve an interpersonal conflict.
88. Arrange for the protégé to observe a colleague.
89. Protect the protégé from unjust criticism.
90. Practice patience.
91. Reflect on when it is time to speak and when it is time to listen.
92. Recognize that not all mentor-protégé relationships are made in heaven.
93. Help the protégé interpret the culture of the school.
94. Help the protégé understand the history of the district.
95. Script a lesson for the protégé.
96. Encourage the protégé to vary their instructional strategies.
97. Remind the protégé of the power of teacher expectations.
98. Value your own knowledge and experience.
99. Pursue excellence in your own classroom.
100. Accept change.
101. Accept the protégé.
102. ***BELIEVE THAT YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!***