

Building Bridges with Open Ended Probes and Questions

The following open ended questions may help guide transition-related conversations and increase involvement of the student and other IEP team members.

Tell me a little about the reasoning behind that decision?

What are you seeing that indicates you are getting the results you expected?

Which part of the new accommodation seems to be the most challenging for Lucas' teachers?

I'm not real clear on how you came to that conclusion. Could you help me understand?

What is it about this approach that concerns you?

What other possibilities might there be to produce different results next time?

What kind of help would be useful to you?

What would you see and hear in Jane's behavior if she were less oppositional?

What caused her to respond that way?

Please say more about . . .

I'm curious about . . .

I'd like to hear more about . . .

Then are you saying . . .?

What would happen if you . . .?

What would happen if you didn't . . .?

What do you think about that idea?

What can you add to what Phyllis just said?

Here's one area you might help us think through . . .

How do you see it differently?

We all seem to want _____. What if we tried to make that happen?

Which do you think might be more effective X, Y or Z?

How else might you . . .?

There are many ways to do that. Here's one idea . . . What do you think?

Mr. Jefferson is out on family leave and so far he's the only one who's provided services. I wonder, has anyone thought about Mrs. Washington as a resource here?

