26 Student-Focused Essential Questions

As you share these powerful student-focused essential questions, think about the impact they can have. How does pondering the nature of such questions shape a student’s critical thinking and problem-solving capacity? What can these questions do to inspire ideas that lend students confidence? How do the questions bridge the gap between you and them? How many of them can be used as self-awareness tools again and again throughout their lives? <https://globaldigitalcitizen.org/26-student-focused-essential-questions>

If you use them as Terry suggested, chances are you and your students won’t go wrong.

1. What do I need to know about you?
2. What do you need from me more than anything else?
3. What does success in the classroom mean to you?
4. What do you know about how people learn?
5. What’s the most creative thing you’ve ever done?
6. How can technology be used for learning?
7. What does it mean to understand something?
8. When was the last time you’ve solved a problem?
9. How do you respond to expectations?
10. What is your proudest moment?
11. What do you want to learn about?
12. Are you a picky reader? What are your strengths as a reader?
13. What is your personal philosophy?
14. When do you write best?
15. What’s worth understanding deeply?
16. What are your best habits as a thinker?
17. What’s most important to you in life?
18. What is the relationship between learning and #17?
19. Where does your inner drive come from?
20. Who are your heroes or role models?
21. Why study (insert your content area here)?
22. What are you good at that nobody knows?
23. What do teachers sometimes misunderstand about you as a learner?
24. What does it mean to study?
25. How do you respond to complex texts or digital media?
26. If I get out of your way this year, what will you be able to do?