

WHAT YOUR COLLEAGUES ARE SAYING . . .

The magic of this book is that Fisher and Frey have presented a vast amount of complex professional knowledge and so many research-based instructional strategies in a way that engenders a high level of engagement. Teachers will pick up the book and continue to read *Welcome to Teaching!* voraciously due to the ease with which the information can be digested. The authors have welcomed educators to teaching by making the complexities of teaching appear simple, doable, and *fun!* As a teacher educator and instructional coach in an alternative certification program, I am so very excited about diving into this text with the preservice and novice teachers whom I support.

—Tiffany Coleman

Instructional Coach, Gwinnett County Public Schools

As educators, we need to read something that is not only relatable but is also respectful of who we are, who our students are, and, most important, where they are, no matter where we are on our journeys. *Welcome to Teaching!* is amazing and can be applied to anyone starting over or switching a grade level and/or subject area. Many times we forget the little simple things that lay the foundation, and this book places a strong emphasis on making sure these are amplified.

—Darius Phelps

Multicultural and Early Childhood Education
Lecturer, Columbia University

Educators trust Douglas Fisher and Nancy Frey to write books that resonate with them, and this one is no exception. Their illustrated guide takes a novel approach to making the six learning categories engaging, accessible, and visible. Not only is *Welcome to Teaching!* a wonderful resource for those new to the profession, but it also serves as a reminder for seasoned teachers to continue utilizing best practices with their students.

—Michelle Shin

Program Director and Instructor, San Diego State University

Welcome to Teaching! is a must-read for all new teachers! It is an exceptional and practical guide to implementing effective research-based instructional strategies, learning conditions, and practices that will ensure high levels of learning in your classroom.

—Shannon L. Bussey

Principal, San Diego Unified School District

Welcome to Teaching! is written as a real-life account of the day-to-day life of a teacher. There are many published books available with good information for teachers, but they are more theory than application. *Welcome to Teaching!* provides guidance on how to cultivate a classroom environment with a trusting, comfortable, risk-free climate.

—Lydia Bagley

Literacy Support Specialist, Cobb County School District

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Welcome to **TEACHING!**

*An Illustrated Guide to the
Best Profession in the World*

30+
*Classroom Videos
of the Strategies
in Action*

Douglas Fisher • Nancy Frey

*Illustrations by **Taryl Hansen***

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Visit the companion website at
resources.corwin.com/welcometoteaching
for videos and downloadable resources.

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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Teaching! An Illustrated Guide to the Best Profession in the World

Congratulations on your choice to become an educator! It's an amazing career and one that will bring you much joy and many challenges. We have been teachers for many years, and in this book we will share with you some of the great ideas we have collected throughout our careers, all of which have been proven to increase student learning.

THE ROLE OF A TEACHER

You will have many roles, which are the big things that you will accomplish as an educator, including . . .

- Providing mentorship and support and listening to others
- Inspiring learners to achieve their aspirations and potential
- Nurturing curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking
- Creating meaningful learning experiences
- Using technology to support learning
- Selecting the right instructional strategies that deepen learning
- Continuing to learn, grow, and develop as an educator



Exciting, right?



I.1: Welcome to Teaching
resources.corwin.com/welcometoteaching

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF A TEACHER

Your responsibilities are the things that you need to do each day to accomplish your role as a professional. Your five major responsibilities include



INSTRUCTION

INSTRUCTION

- Provide instruction to individual students, small groups, and the whole class.
- Design instruction to meet student needs.
- Implement accommodations, modifications, and specially designed instructional strategies.

ASSESSMENT

- Conduct assessments and use evidence formatively and summatively.
- Provide timely and useful feedback to students.
- Grade students based on expectations.
- Administer local and state standards-based measures.



ASSESSMENT



COMMUNICATION

COMMUNICATION

- Collaborate with other educators, including specialists (art, PE, music), special educators, and bilingual support personnel.
- Provide feedback to families and other team members.
- Attend planning meetings, team meetings, and individualized education program (IEP) meetings.
- Collaborate with grade-level/subject-area teams on curriculum and instruction.



LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP

- Design the structure of the class (e.g., curriculum, classroom management, physical design, policies, materials).
- Supervise paraprofessionals and peer tutors.



RECORD KEEPING

RECORD KEEPING

- Record daily lesson and unit plans, activities, and assignments.
- Maintain student records of progress and grades on learning targets and standards.
- Maintain attendance records.

WHAT YOU WILL FIND IN THIS BOOK

We have organized the information in this book into the following categories:

1. ***Creating the climate for learning***
2. ***Planning for learning***
3. ***Engagement in learning***
4. ***Assessment of learning***
5. ***Instructional moves that ensure learning***
6. ***Tools and strategies that support learning***

Notice that we're focused on learning. The other aspects of teaching you will learn from your administrators and colleagues, such as how to collaborate with other educators. In this book, we welcome you into teaching and know that you have selected this role because you want to impact the learning lives of young people.



There are myths that persist in the field of education. We identify several of these in each section in hopes that they are not perpetuated in your school.



You'll see lots of images that will guide your understanding of the content. We have created infographics for each of the major questions so that you can flip through this book and find what you're looking for.

First, you'll find questions. These questions are the ones that we are commonly asked as people become educators and are based on thousands of classroom observations and our reading of the research.

For each question, we provide information and **an opportunity to elevate your practice and take it to a higher level.**



At the end of each question, there is a checklist of items for you to consider. Addressing each of these items will ensure that **you develop as a highly effective teacher.**



We've included a lot of videos so that you can **see other teachers in action** and hear from us directly.



There are also links to additional resources that you can use if you like. You may want to return to a specific question later and **use the resources to expand your thinking.**



Again, welcome to teaching. We are lucky to have you as a colleague, and we trust that you will create incredible learning experiences for your students.

TRUST

