

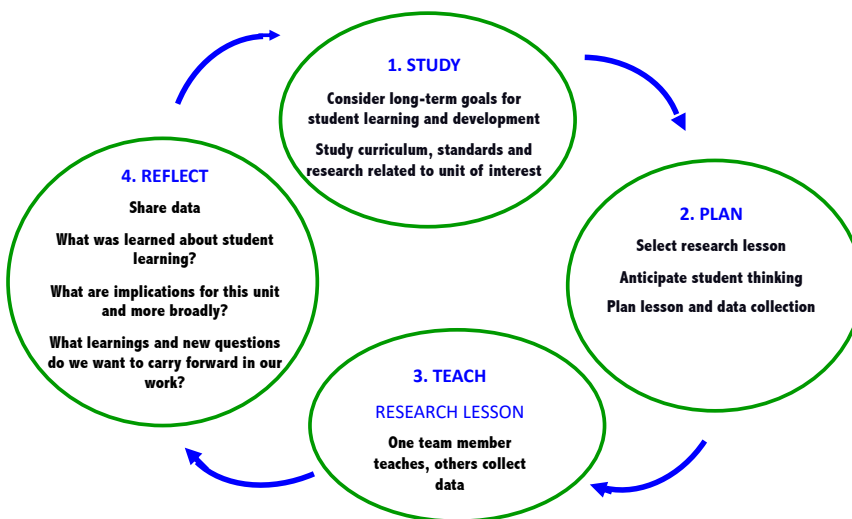
Lesson Study: Background for Conversation on April 19, 2021

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Lesson Study is a collaborative professional learning approach that is near-universal in Japan, and has become common outside Japan since the late 1990's. As shown in Figure 1, Lesson Study is inquiry cycles that allow teachers to connect their long-term goals and study of research-based resources to their experimentation in practice. A key feature of Lesson Study is the "Research Lesson," so dubbed because teachers bring to life their hypotheses about good teaching and because they carefully observe and document student responses to the lesson.

Figure 1: Lesson Study Cycle



As a prelude to our conversation, please look over [About Lesson Study](#), scrolling down to the colored cycle elements (shown here at the bottom of the page). If you hover over each circle on the website page, a short video clip will come up. If you can, please review the video clips ahead of our meeting and send me a note with your quick thoughts on the prompts below. I will draw on your responses to shape our time together unless you tell me not to. (Please send your note to clewis@mills.edu by midday on Sunday April 18 if possible.)

1. What, if anything, do you want to remember about the professional learning in the video?
2. What are your hunches about why schools engaged in this work have shown growth in student learning? (For example, what are the key changes in teachers, teaching, collegiality, etc that the kind of Lesson Study in the video might produce?)
3. What questions, if any, do you have about Lesson Study?

