

Figure 1.1: Examining Assumptions About Students

Imagine yourself interacting with a student who is struggling with academic, behavior, or social-emotional skills.

- How do they behave in your class? What is their level of engagement?
- What assumptions and judgments are you making about that student and why they are behaving that way?
- What expectations might you have of what they “should” be able to do but aren’t?

- What are some other possible reasons why that student may be behaving that way?
- What are some assumptions the student might have about you or about themselves that affects how they behave? (For example, you don't like them, they aren't smart enough, you single them out, there is no hope for their future, and so on.)
- What might your relationship look like with this student if you let go of your assumptions or judgments about them?