

Reflect on the Relational Mindset

All meaningful and lasting change starts with a mirror. Now that you understand the concept of the relational mindset and have strategies to foster its growth in your classroom, it's time to self-assess and reflect on what comes next. Use the following questions to accomplish this.

1. What can you do to bring a stronger relational mindset into your class every day?
2. What evidence do you expect to see to let you know that you're improving your students' chances of succeeding academically?
3. What strategy could you use or adapt from part one in your very next class to start building a relational mindset with your students or with specific students in need?
4. What challenges do you expect to encounter as you adopt this strategy? How will you react to and overcome these challenges?
5. What benefits can you envision when you find success building stronger relationships with your students? How will you benefit? How will your students benefit?

Your decision to help students grow means that you generate a new narrative that includes the relational mindset. Begin with a fierce urgency, and choose one of the chapters' strategies to get started with better relationships. Encourage colleagues to help, and set goals for progress. Once the message is in your heart, and you've built the activities into your lessons, the mindset will become automatic.