Sample Interview Questions for Teachers

1. Please describe the methods you use to teach science and describe why you use these methods as opposed to others.
2. Describe your most effective unit and why you think it is effective.
3. What aspects of your teacher preparation best prepared you to teach science?
4. What aspects of teaching were you unprepared for?
5. How might you have been better prepared for the classroom?

Sample questions for students

1. What do you like most about science class?
2. How does the instruction in your science class compare with other classes at your school?
3. How does what you’re learning in science class relate to everyday life? Can you give examples?
4. What do you see as the purpose of science?
5. How do you think scientists approach problems?

We might also ask some probing questions about a science concept that they learned in a recent project. For example, could you describe the process of meiosis? How do chromosomes sort during this division? What would happen if spindle fibers grabbed more chromosomes than they should in the first division?

The goal is to see how project-based instruction influences students’ perceptions of science and scientific methods as well as probing the depth of their understanding .