

Crafting an Effective Design Clinic Question

Effective design clinics begin with a thoughtful request for help.

Your request should focus on some aspect of your work that you are rethinking and are open to **redesigning** in order to make it better--more effective, consistent, easy, inclusive, etc.

Here are some characteristics of effective design clinic requests, and related tips:

Singular: Make one request, not two or three jammed together.

Simple: Group members should be easily able to remember your request. Keep it short!

Practical: It should relate to an ongoing, active challenge in your practice/work.

Actionable: It should relate to something about which you are empowered to change.

Inviting: It should encourage people to become more curious about and invested in your work.

Energetic: It should reveal your enthusiasm for moving forward with solutions.

Here are some (generic) example design clinic requests: "Could you help me..."

...improve our intern onboarding?

...get more children involved in our programming?

...help our patrons learn about this new issue?

...help us find allies to overcome this obstacle?

...find real data for my students to analyze?

...get this idea off the ground?

...more effectively promote this community resource?

...simplify this process?

...generate more consistent outcomes?