**ENCOURAGING REFLECTIVE THINKING**

**What is Reflective Thinking?**

Reflective thinking is part of the critical thinking process. We participate in reflective thinking when we process, analyze, and make judgments about things that have happened.

**How Can I Stimulate Reflective Thinking in My Student?**

* Ask the student questions that require reasoning and use of evidence and knowledge.
* Provide time and space for the student to reflect.
* Provide a supportive environment for the process.
* Encourage students to journal, as well as verbalize their reflections.

**What Questions Should I Ask to Stimulate Reflection?**

* Use the Four R’s of Reflection1:
	+ Reporting
		- What happened?
	+ Relating
		- What have you learned about this sort of situation or condition?
		- Have you seen something similar to this before?
	+ Reasoning
		- Why did it happen?
		- What else might have contributed to this situation?
		- What impact did you have on the situation?
		- What alternatives might you consider?
		- What are you thinking now?
	+ Reconstructing
		- How could you do things differently?
		- How could you change the impact you had on the situation?
		- How do you think an alternative activity might impact the outcome?
		- What will you do if your new plan isn’t working? What options do you have?