

Keep in mind that no strength is too small to mention in this process. Any skill or talent that you possess may be a potential learning opportunity for your co-teaching partner. As you can see from the list on the previous page, the items you generate can be directly connected to teaching (e.g., conducting hair-bending science experiments) or indirectly connected to teaching (e.g., playing Minecraft). Now, ready or not, take a moment and list at least ten skills, abilities or competencies connected to your life in the classroom. It's okay. Boast a bit!

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## Needs

Now, take a moment and identify a few of your more pressing areas of need. This list tends to be easier to build as most of us focus more on our areas of challenge than on our areas of ability. Still, some of you may struggle with this task because you are unsure of which areas to prioritize or how general or specific to be. If you do get stuck, we recommend that you consider not only your obvious challenges, but the abilities you have observed in your co-teaching partner. This way, you can identify areas of growth that are directly connected to areas of strength for someone who is in a position to teach and support you.

Your areas of need may potentially include:

- » *writing measurable goals*
- » *sticking to lesson plans*
- » *programming a student's AAC (augmentative and alternative communication) device*
- » *diagramming sentences*
- » *facilitating literature circles*
- » *keeping students awake during lessons on linear equations*
- » *changing the learning state regularly*
- » *coaching students during the circuit training unit*
- » *designing sensory supports for students on the autism spectrum*
- » *learning to use the new student blogging platform*
- » *remembering if a turtle is a reptile or an amphibian*
- » *returning pencils to a co-teacher's desk*
- » *being on time*
- » *understanding Snapchat*
- » *learning to use new e-portfolios with biology students*

Again, feel free to add items to your list that are directly connected to teaching or indirectly connected to teaching. Take a moment and list at least ten areas of need or challenge related to your life in the classroom. Be honest. We're all friends here.

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