## Involving Students in the Assessment Process <br> Readiness Reflection \#3

Formative Assessment: An intentional process used by teachers and students during instruction that provides feedback to adjust ongoing teaching and learning to improve students' achievement.

| To what degree do you understand and or practice these key elements of formative <br> assessment? | Not Yet <br> (Red) | Developing <br> (Yellow) | Practicing <br> (Green) |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Engaging Students with Effective Questioning and Dialogue |  |  |  |


| I utilize various techniques to engage my students in discussions and learning tasks. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| My classroom discussions are rich and include various levels of questioning. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Adequate wait time is provided for my students to respond to questions. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Classroom discussions occur in various modes (whole group, partners, peer group) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| I use effective questions, learning tasks and discussion techniques to elicit evidence of student understanding or misconceptions. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Involving Students in Self and Peer Assessment |  |  |  |
| During lessons, students are encouraged to reflect on what they have learned and what they need to improve. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| I provide students with opportunities to monitor their learning progress. (e.g., data notebooks, learning logs, portfolios) | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| I provide students with opportunities to use each other as instructional resources. (e.g., using a rubric to give feedback, discussions, questions | 0 | 0 | 0 |

1. Reflecting upon your responses and what you've learned today, which understandings or practices would you like to further develop?
2. What steps do you need to take to move your own learning or practice forward?

## 15 Formative Questioning Strategies

1. Wait Time Variations: Give students time to think after you pose a question to the group. Research shows that giving students 3 to 5 seconds to process a question increases quality and quantity of responses dramatically.
2. Volleyball, Not Ping Pong: Changing pattern of interaction from teacher to student to- teacher to student, to student
3. "Hands Down": Students are told NOT to raise their hands when a question is asked. All students should be ready to answer a question, even if the response is, "I don't know."
4. Hand Signals: "Fist to Five"- students are taught specific behavioral expectations for each of the numbered fingers. "Thumbs up: I understand, Thumbs sideways: I'm not completely sure, Thumbs down: I do not yet understand.
5. Response Cards: Index cards, dry-erase boards, magnetic boards,_ABCDE Cards simultaneously held up by all students in class to indicate their response to a question or problem presented by the teacher. Information is used by the teacher to adapt and organize the ensuing discussion or lesson.
6. Traffic Lighting: Table tent, traffic cards, cups, or dots to indicate level of understanding or readiness of group
7. Fact First Questioning: Moves student thinking beyond recall of information. State the fact and follow it with a why question. Ex. Glucose is a form of food for plants. Why is glucose considered a food for plants?"
8. Pass the Question: Provides an opportunity to collaborate with a partner and share in the thinking process. Working in pairs, students write a partial response to a question. When time is up, they exchange their partial responses and finish, modify or add to it as the pair deems necessary.
9. Commit and Toss: Quick anonymous way to get different ideas without individuals being identified as having the wrong answer. Students are given a question. After completing their response on a piece of scrap paper, they crumple up the paper into a ball, and upon a signal from the teacher, toss the paper balls around the room. Students shares the response on their "caught" paper, not their own.
10. Odd one Out: Students choose which item from the list that does not belong and justify their reason for selecting it. Example: Length, Volume, Temperature, Mass Which one is odd? Why is it the odd one out?
11. Friendly Talk Probes: Two-tiered questioning with selected response and justification. Responses are posed as friend responses. Students pick the friend they most agree with and explain why.
12. Four Corners: Used with selected response questions to identify groups of students with similar responses.
13. Juicy Questions: Using Depth of Knowledge- design questions that elicit understanding: Always consider the level of the questions you are asking. If you ask recall type questions, expect discussions that are less deep in understanding of concepts.
14. Sticky Bars: Helps students recognize the range or ideas in the class. Post-It note responses are arranged as a bar graph.
15. I Used To Think, But Now I Know: Asks students to compare verbally or in written form their ideas from the beginning of the lesson to their ideas after completing the lesson.

## Learning Target: Student Self-Assessment

## Why should students assess their own work?

$\square$ All students are developmental learners.
$\square$ Every student has the capacity to develop his/her knowledge and skills in a given area.
$\square$ Students are valued participants in learning.
$\square$ Students are capable of being reflective learners through effective modeling.
$\square$ Students develop skills for life-long and self-motivated learning.

## What is Student Self-Assessment?

Students critically examine their work with reference to previously established indicators-learning targets, criteria, exemplars, and/or rubrics
$\square$ Self-assessment may happen during a task.
$\square$ Self-assessment may take place at the end of a task, topic or unit of work.
$\square$ Self-assessment can include peer-assessment.

## Benefits for Teachers

$\square$ Feedback from students will add to the information teachers already have about students.
$\square$ Students' achievements, when measured against standards, are likely to be accelerated.
$\square$ Students are able to work independently without continuous reliance on teacher direction.

## What the experts say about Self-Assessment

- "Self- and Peer-Assessment make unique contributions to the development of students' learning-they secure aims that cannot be achieved any other way." Black, Harrison, Lee, and Wiliam, Assessment for Learning,
- "If Formative Assessment is to be productive, pupils should be trained in self-assessment so that they can understand the main purposes of their learning and thereby grasp what they need to do to achieve." Black and Wiliam, Inside the Black Box
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Student Exit Slip Samples (Pauline and Jacob)

Exit Slip:
Choose the correct answer and write a brief (one or two sentences) explanation that justifies your choice.

```
because there's for 720 using exponents?
only a useing the
```



```
(B) }\mp@subsup{2}{}{4}\times\mp@subsup{3}{}{2}\times
C 23}\times\mp@subsup{3}{}{2}\times
D 2+2+2+2+3+3+5
C, and D dose not
    equal 720
```

Exit Slip:
Jacob
List two persuasive techniques and give an example for each.
1.) Celeb. endorsement - Jessica Simpson uses proactive.
2.) Statistics - it works $98.5 \%$ of the time.

## Learning Target Self-Assessment: Completed

| Unit: Economics and Society | Grade Level: 6 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Target: <br> I can identify the needs and wants of a society. | Date $1-5-10$ | Date $1-14-10$ | Date $1-22-10$ |
| Rate your own mastery over time. Remember that your rating can change over time. <br> New to me <br> I got this! |  |  |  |
| Target: <br> I can compare and contrast the changes of different societies' needs and wants. | Date $1-5-10$ | Date $1-14-10$ | Date $1-22-10$ |
| Rate your own mastery over time. Remember that your rating can change over time. |  |  |  |
| Target: <br> I can define inflation and recognize the effects on the Roman Empire. | Date $1-5-10$ | Date $1-14-10$ | Date $1-22-10$ |
| Rate your own mastery over time. Remember that your rating can change over time. <br> New to me <br> I got this! |  |  |  |
| Target: <br> I can explain the development artisans (specialization of jobs) as a result of the emergence of the agrarian society. | Date $1-5-10$ | Date $1-14-10$ | Date $1-22-10$ |
| Rate your own mastery over time. Remember that your rating can change over time. |  |  |  |
| New to me |  | $\longrightarrow$ | I got this! |

$\qquad$

## Self-Assessing Learning Targets

## What are my strengths? What are my areas for improvement?

1. Please look at your corrected assessment and mark whether each problem is right or wrong.
2. Then look at the problems/questions you got wrong and decide if you made a simple mistake. If you did, put a check in the "simple mistake" column.
3. Put a check in the "more study" column for all remaining problems/questions you got wrong.

| Probleml <br> Question | Learning Target | Right? | Wrong? | Simple <br> Mistake? | More <br> Study? |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
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## I used to think

But now I know

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| 3 |  |
| :--- | :--- |
| 2 |  |
| 1 |  |



## Formative Assessment Lesson Planning Model (Clock Graphic)

## GRADE 6 Learning Targets:

- I can determine the average of a set of numbers.
- I can use between 3 and 5 vocabulary words from the statistics unit.
- I can show my understanding of mathematics through the use of visual representations.


How does the amount of whole-group vs. individual/partner work impact using the formative strategies teachers choose in their work with students?

## Cadbury Egg Statistics Activity

## Grade Six Learning Targets:

- I can determine the average of a set of numbers.
- I can use between 3 and 5 vocabulary words from the statistics unit.
- I can show my understanding of mathematics through the use of visual representations.


## Problem:

According to the Cadbury Chocolate Company marketing department, the following numbers of cases of Cadbury Chocolate Eggs are sold in an average year:

| month | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | Jun | Jul | Aug | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| $1000^{\prime}$ 's <br> of <br> cases <br> sold | 108 | 115 | 121 | 254 | 98 | 87 | 52 | 21 | 75 | 93 | 111 | 134 |

a. How many thousands of cases of eggs are sold in an average month?
b. Which season would say dominates the egg selling market?
c. What reasoning did you use for determining the average that would be the most useful for the company?

## Have your math partner check your work before you self-assess.

| Target | Red- I am stuck on... | Yellow- I need a 5 <br> minute consultation | Green- ready for <br> feedback |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Ican determine <br> the average ofa <br> set of numbers. |  |  |  |
| I can use between <br> 3and vocabulary <br> words from the <br> statistics unit. |  |  |  |
| Ican show my <br> understanding of <br> mathematics <br> through the use of <br> visual <br> representations. |  |  |  |

If you ald up all the eat and then divide cosby the \# of pieces of date you get the alrérye.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& 54 \\
& 108 \\
& 115 \\
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Logan,
you have found the average and the dominant month. Your use of a stem + leaf plot was a way to represent your answer visually. Your next step is to explain your reasoning for finding the mean, as apposed o to the median or mode.
Teacher Feedback


## Frayer Model



Stars and Steps: Completed

I liked how your resolution was entertaining
and ended with George Ylumest saving the also used believable dialogue.
that would be used in real life.
I details to support your conflict. Explaining think you had enough
also include mas would help. You could
the conflict. details to lead up to

## Short Story Learning Targets

- I can use supporting details to create a believable conflict.
- I can write a story with a conflict that is resolved in a way that entertains the reader and makes sense.
- I can write and story with believable dialogue that supports the reader's understanding.


## The Case for Student-Involved Classroom Assessment

## Excerpted from the Article: Using Student- Involved Classroom Assessment to Close Achievement Gaps Rick Stiggins and Jan Chappuis Theory into Practice, 44 1, 11-18

Ongoing classroom assessments can be used in far more productive ways to encourage student confidence. Three categories of powerful tools, taken together, permit us to tap a wellspring of motivation that resides within each learner. These tools include student involvement in the assessment process, student-involved record keeping and student-involved communication. Together, they redefine how we use assessment to excite students about their learning potential.
Student-involved classroom assessment opens the assessment process and invites students in as partners, monitoring their own levels of achievement. Under the careful management of their teachers (who begin with a clear and appropriate vision of what they want their students to achieve), students are invited to play a role in defining the criteria by which their work will be judged. They learn to apply these criteria, identifying the strengths and weaknesses in their own practice work. In short, student-involved assessment helps learners see and understand our vision of their academic success. The result will be classrooms in which there are no surprises and no excuses. This builds trust and confidence.

Student-involved record keeping encourages learners to monitor improvements in their performance over time through repeated self-assessment. For example, as students build growth portfolios of evidence of their success over time, they can reflect on the changes they see. In effect, we use such repeated formative classroom assessments as a mirror permitting students to watch themselves grow. As they chart progress, they gain a sense of control over their own learning. This can be a powerful confidence builder.
Student-involved communication invites learners to share their self-assessments with others. Student-involved parent/ teacher conferences-a significant breakthrough in communicating about student achievement-illustrate this concept in action. When students are prepared well over an extended period to tell the story of their own success (or lack thereof), they experience a fundamental shift in their internal sense of responsibility for that success. The pride that students feel when they have a positive story to tell, and then tell it convincingly, engenders commitment to further learning. And, students feel an immense sense of personal responsibility when they know that they might have to face the music of telling their parents about the specifics of their non-achievement. They will work very hard to avoid that eventuality; that prospect can drive them to productive work. In these three ways, we can use student involvement to help them see, understand, contribute to, and appreciate their own journey of achievement success. This is exactly what teachers must do to help their students understand the achievement expectations, find and follow the path of success, and feel in charge of, rather than victimized by, the assessment process.

