

TEAM Best Practices Video Library

Assessment

Culminating Activity



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Review of the Assessment Indicator



Review of Assessment Indicator

Key Points on Effective Assessment

- **Purpose of Assessment:** More than measuring learning; it drives meaningful instruction.
- **Planning:** Begins before instruction, embedded in unit goals and standards.
- **Key Questions:**
 - What should students be able to do?
 - How will I know students' progress towards mastery of the standard?
- **Continuous Assessment:** Performance checks throughout the unit and school year.
- **Diverse Methods:** Projects, presentations, written responses, experiments, essays.
- **Clear Criteria:** Define success clearly for students.
- **Use of Data:** Guides lesson planning, interventions, and future instruction.
- **Growth Tool:** Thoughtful planning and strategic use lead to increased achievement and deeper learning. ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::



Review of Assessment Indicator

Benefits of Effective Assessment Plans:

- **Aligns instruction with learning goals:** Ensures assessments measure what students are actually expected to learn, based on standards and curriculum.
- **Clarifies expectations for students:** Provides clear targets and success criteria, helping students understand what they need to achieve.
- **Informs instructional decisions:** Guides teachers in adjusting instruction, pacing, and strategies based on assessment data.
- **Supports differentiated instruction:** Identifies students' strengths and needs, allowing for targeted interventions and enrichment.
- **Monitors progress over time:** Ongoing performance checks track growth and provide early warnings when students fall behind.
- **Raises overall student achievement:** When assessments are planned and used effectively, they drive continuous improvement in teaching and learning.



Review the Descriptors



Descriptor 1: Assessment plans are aligned with state content standards

Key Points on Standards and Assessment

- **Focus on Standards:** Foundation for teaching, learning, and assessment.
- **Purposeful Connection:** Aligns instruction, assessment, and standards.
- **Informed Decisions:** Empowers teachers to make instructional choices.
- **Relevance:** Assessments must connect to standards to be valid.
- **Observable Outcomes:** Standards define measurable outcomes.
- **Key Questions:**
 - What should students know and be able to do?
 - What should it look like if they can do that?
 - How can I design an assessment to show this?





Descriptor 2: Assessment plans have measurement criteria

Key Points on Measurement Criteria

- **Purpose:** Define success to ensure consistent and fair evaluation.
- **Transparency:** Clarify expectations for teachers and students.
- **Objective Scoring:** Outline specific indicators of proficiency.
- **Guidance:** Aid in instructional planning and meaningful feedback.
- **Transformative:** Turn assessments into purposeful learning tools.
- **Evaluator Focus:**
 - Clear, specific criteria
 - Consistency with standards
 - Development and communication of criteria
 - Support for equitable and objective assessment
 - Evidence of student self-assessment or peer review





Descriptor 3: Assessment plans measure student performance in multiple ways

Key Points on Varied Assessment Methods

- **Diverse Formats:** Projects, experiments, presentations, essays, short answers, multiple-choice tests.
- **Equitable Opportunities:** Different formats cater to diverse learning styles.
- **Comprehensive Understanding:** Multiple assessment types capture full scope of student knowledge.
- **Diagnostic Tool:** Identifies specific areas where students need support.
- **Rich Evidence:** Multiple avenues for students to demonstrate mastery.
- **Accurate Reflection:** Ensures assessment reflects learning, not just test-taking ability.





Descriptor 4: Assessment plans require written tasks

Key Points on Including Writing in Assessments

- **Purpose of Writing:** Allows students to process and express thinking concretely.
- **Insight:** Provides valuable understanding of student reasoning and comprehension.
- **Variety of Tasks:** Can include essays, reflections, explanations, drawings, musical notation, labeled diagrams.
- **Meaningful Integration:** Each unit should incorporate a significant writing task.
- **Evidence of Learning:** Writing tasks demonstrate deeper cognitive work aligned to standards.





Descriptor 5: Assessment plans include performance checks throughout the school year

Key Points on Ongoing Performance Checks

- **Continuous Monitoring:** Essential for tracking student progress toward mastery of state standards.
- **Interconnected Learning:** Standards build upon each other over time.
- **Variety of Assessments:** Includes formative and summative assessments.
- **Meaningful Data:** Gathered at multiple points during the year.
- **Identify Gaps:** Performance checks reveal learning gaps from earlier instruction.
- **Data Tracking:** Screeners, classroom assessments, benchmark tests show growth patterns.
- **Instructional Adjustments:** Data informs targeted interventions and instructional changes.
- **Comprehensive View:** Ensures students are progressing toward rigorous expectations.
- **Readiness for Summative Evaluations:** Provides a clear picture of student learning trajectory.





***Descriptor 6: Assessment plans include descriptions of how assessment results will be used to inform future instruction**

Key Points on Using Assessment Data to Inform Instruction

- **Critical Practice:** Essential for effective teaching and understanding student needs.
- **Continuous Analysis:** Involves ongoing collection and interpretation of data.
- **Formative Assessments:** Immediate feedback from exit tickets, student responses, in-class tasks.
- **Summative Assessments:** Broader picture from unit tests, benchmarks.
- **Insight into Gaps:** Identifies missing skills or standards.
- **Instructional Adjustments:** Modify teaching based on data to address learning gaps.
- **Targeted Interventions:** Plan specific support to raise student achievement.
- **Ongoing Cycle:** Assessment, reflection, and adjustment ensure progression toward mastery.

**Evidence for significantly above expectations (when descriptor 5 is also significantly above expectations)*

Culminating Activity



Culminating Activity

- Do a quick review of all the descriptors of the Assessment Indicator and then watch this video. As you watch the video, capture evidence that fit the descriptors for the Assessment Indicator.
- Video featuring 2024-2025 Northwest Core Region Teacher of the year Sherri Brawner under the guidance of Lee Lawrence, Principal of Gleason School, Weakley County Schools



Share evidence you captured of descriptors in the Assessment indicator.



Possible Evidence

Descriptor 1:

- The educator shares how she plans end of unit assessments to measure mastery of the point of view standard.
- The educator describes how the benchmark assessments are aligned to state content standards.

Descriptor 2:

- The educator describes how she shares the measurement criteria in the form of a rubric with students in order to help them master the unit objective.



Possible Evidence

Descriptor 3:

The educator shares the different forms of assessment that she utilizes to measure student mastery:

- Weekly multiple choice question assessments
- End of unit assessments
- Written assessments
- Benchmarks throughout the year
- Wax museum research project

Descriptor 4:

- The educator shares how she plans for a written assessment to measure mastery towards the point of view standard.
- The educator shares how the students will engage in a research project which will require them to turn 3rd person biographies into 1st person autobiographies.



Possible Evidence

Descriptor 5 (and 6 from exceeds expectations):

- The educator describes how she collects student data from weekly, end of unit, writing, and benchmark assessments.
- The educator discusses how she uses the data collected to plan her instruction and her future assessments.
- She describes how she differentiates her instruction for students based on their pre-instruction data and end of unit data.
- The educator describes how she spirals the skills taught within other units in order to assess progress towards mastery throughout the year.



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- Please use the form to reflect on today's learning and provide feedback about this resource.





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