

VOICES OF EXPERIENCE

Practical Ideas
for Assessment

A selection of assessment-for-learning ideas from the popular Start-Up, Spark-Up, and Wrap-Up books

Grades
4-8

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INTRODUCTION TO ASSESSMENT

Here are 15 practical ideas you can use tomorrow to increase the Assessment For Learning practices in your classroom:

- Pause and Think: setting up self-assessment routines (BLM)
- Before and After: showing individual growth and progress (BLM)
 - Get Descriptive: using descriptive feedback to support learning (BLM)
 - What Counts: developing criteria with students
 - Select a Goal: making a realistic start (BLM)
 - Destination Cards: letting students know what they are expected to learn (BLM)
- Lineups: giving and receiving useful feedback from peers
- No Mystery: involving students in decisions about tests (BLM)
- Immediate Information: increasing oral feedback to improve learning
 - Highlight and Hand In: teaching self-assessment skills to improve work quality
- Peer Feedback: listing criteria and asking peers for feedback (BLM)
 - Comments Only: marking to increase student achievement
 - Class-constructed Rubrics: using student ideas and language to increase understanding (BLM)
- Wrap-up Portfolios: selecting and reflecting on work samples (BLM)
- Portfolio Showing: celebrating learning with others (BLM)

These are excerpts from our *Voices of Experience* Series. If you are interested in more ideas related to building relationships, organizing your classroom, and using reliable activities that are our favourites, please go the following link: www.pandmpress.com.