Assessments for Learning

Assessment *for* learning improves student learning and in addition, helps students become independent, self-monitoring learners!

Teachers play an essential role in supporting students to develop these skills by:

1. Ensuring that students have a clear understanding of what they are learning and what successful learning looks like

2. Modelling descriptive feedback, self-assessment, and goal setting

3. Providing opportunities to practice these skills, first with guidance and support and then independently

Learning goals

Learning goals are brief statements that describe, for students, what they should know, understand, and be able to do by the end of a period of instruction (i.e., a lesson, a unit). They represent a subset of knowledge and skills that students must master in order to successfully achieve the overall expectations.

Success criteria

Success criteria describe, in specific terms and in language meaningful to students, what successful attainment of the learning goals looks like. Criteria help students understand what to look for during the learning and what it looks like once they have learned. They identify the significant aspects of student performance that are assessed and/or evaluated (i.e., the "look-fors") in relation to curriculum expectations.

Learning Goals

Math and Language Examples:
- ✓ I can reflect on and identify my strengths and next steps for improvement in math
- ✓ I can represent numbers using math tools (i.e., number lines, pictures, ten frames)
- ✓ I am learning to investigate and explain how addition and subtraction strategies are related
- ✓ I can reflect on and identify my strengths and next steps for improvement in my writing
- ✓ I will be able to select the evidence that supports my point of view

Success Criteria

Point of View Opinion Example:
- ✓ Clear, strong point of view
- ✓ Supported with examples and facts
- ✓ Uses comparisons
- ✓ Presents a variety of facts and examples
- ✓ True and believable
- ✓ Describes consequences
- ✓ Includes a call for action

Language
- ✓ Uses descriptive vocabulary
- ✓ Descriptive words and phrases
- ✓ Correct spelling
- ✓ Varied sentence lengths and types