

# ASSESSMENT PURPOSE REFERENCE GUIDE

Understanding why you are assessing your students and which assessments best fit your purpose is an important first step in designing assessments that work for Arts Integration and STEAM. Use this quick-reference guide to help determine which assessment pathway you want to pursue.

## ASSESSMENT FOR LEARNING

## ASSESSMENT OF LEARNING

### What is it?

Formative & diagnostic assessment that checks learning to decide what to do next. It is usually detailed, specific, and descriptive feedback in words and in relation to criteria that has been set.

Summative assessment that checks what has been learned to date. Usually summarizes information into marks, scores or grades.

### Who is being measured?

Individual students. They can be measuring themselves against their learning goals, prior work, other students' work or an objective/standard.

The educational environment: teachers, curricula, education systems, programs, processes, etc.

### How often?

Ongoing: As part of a cycle of instruction and feedback over time. Feedback is immediate.

Point in time: often at the end of a curricular unit or course, or annually at the same time each school year.

### For what purpose?

To help students identify and internalize their own learning goals, understanding and to evaluate the quality of their work. Also used to diagnose gaps in skills and to help decide on next steps.

To provide an overall description of students' status and evaluate the effectiveness of the educational environment.

### What strategies are used?

Self-evaluation, analyzing work, developing and using rubrics, reflective journals or portfolios, sketchbooks, compositions, peer reviews, etc.

Standardized to make comparisons across students, classes or schools. Typically includes a pool of test questions or a common rubric for judging a project.

### Sources

[http://etec.ctlt.ubc.ca/510/wiki/Assessment\\_for\\_Learning](http://etec.ctlt.ubc.ca/510/wiki/Assessment_for_Learning)

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/section/multimedia/types-of-assessments-a-head-to-head-comparison.html>