

Assessment for Learning Process

Viewed independently the Assessment *for Learning* attributes below are familiar to teachers; however, the Assessment *for Learning* process focuses on a comprehensive, holistic approach that integrates these attributes for use by both the teacher and the student.

✧ Establish a Collaborative Climate

- Develop classroom climate guidelines with students
- Nurture a safe, risk-free, and trusting environment
- Teach respectful communication and openness to diverse opinions
- Encourage and value the active participation of all students
- Help students see themselves as instructional resources for one another
- Share the responsibility for learning:
 - Have students set specific goals within the framework of what is being taught
 - Include students in developing models of success criteria
 - Cultivate a shared concern about the learning progress of every student
- Serve as a facilitator of learning
- Celebrate progress

✧ Share Learning Goals and Criteria for Success

- Clearly communicate goals in student-friendly language
- Provide strong and weak examples of success criteria
- Assess current learning and determine the next steps to move forward

✧ Elicit and Use Evidence of Learning

- Use a variety of methods to observe, collect, and use evidence of learning in order to make adjustments during instruction:
 - Engineer effective classroom discussions; use planned strategic questions and total participation techniques; design lessons that differentiate instruction
 - Observe, collect, and use evidence of learning to make adjustments

✧ Use Descriptive Feedback

- Use specific and frequent feedback to:
 - Identify the gap between current learning and the learning goal
 - Revise work to meet criteria for success without assigning grades or scores
- Incorporate peer to peer feedback as well as teacher to student feedback

✧ Promote Self-Assessment

- Help students monitor their own learning so they will:
 - Know what a successful performance looks like
 - Use personal learning traits
 - Recognize the kind of effort that results in success
 - Adapt their learning to achieve the desired goals
- Teach metacognitive strategies