

Designing Effective Projects: Assessing Projects Planning Project Assessment

Planning Assessment

An assessment plan ensures a project stays focused on intended learning goals and should be developed along with project activities and tasks. Because project tasks allow for broader expression of individual learning, assessment strategies need to be open enough to accommodate a range of student work, yet focused on expected results.

An assessment plan outlines methods and tools that define clear expectations and standards for quality in products and performances. It also defines project monitoring checkpoints and methods to both inform the teacher and keep students on track. The plan should involve students in reviewing and managing their learning progress during the project. A plan will answer key questions:

- How will you know your students have met the learning goals?
- By what criteria will students be assessed?
- What methods of assessment will you use throughout the project in order to inform you and your students about their learning progress?
- What reporting and monitoring methods will you use to encourage student self-management and progress during independent and group work?

Sample Assessment Timeline

The diagram below shows how assessment can be embedded throughout a unit. There are endless combinations of assessment methods and plans that can be woven into a unit plan.

