

WHY FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT MATTERS

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Abstract:

Assessment is an important part of teaching. It is often divided into formative and summative categories. Summative assessment is used to assign students a grade. On the other hand, formative assessment is used to improve student learning. There are quite a few differences between these two evaluation strategies and they will be discussed in the presentation. But the main focus will be on formative assessment and its advantages as well as disadvantages. Formative assessment involves a wide variety of methods used by teachers to evaluate students' comprehension, learning needs and progress during the learning process. Its general aim is to collect information in order to improve student learning during the process – while it is happening. Consequently, it helps teachers identify the current state of learners' knowledge and gives students feedback on their work and progress. However, this type of assessment has certain disadvantages as well.

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