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Definition

**Assessment**

**Formative**

The NC Division of Child Development and Early Education defines formative assessment as “systematic ongoing procedure to document, monitor and evaluate children’s progress, and plan appropriate learning experiences by:

1. Observing, documenting and evaluating all children’s development, knowledge, skills, behaviors, strengths, needs and interests in all areas defined in North Carolina Foundations for Early Learning and Development;
2. Providing opportunity for communication and collaboration with families, teachers, and service providers regarding children’s interests, development, and learning; and
3. Providing data that teachers can use to systematically plan and evaluate learning experiences and teaching practices based on documentation of the learning and development of a diverse group of children.”

1Source: NC Curriculum and Assessment Review Committee Working Title, Definition and Criteria for Assessments <http://ncchildcare.nc.gov/pdf_forms/definition_and_criteria_for_formative_assessments.pdf>

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