

## Ideas and Strategies for Incorporating Formative Assessment in Educational Technology

**WHAT IS FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT?** The North Carolina 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:

- a. 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*;
- b. Providing opportunity for communication and collaboration with families, teachers, and service providers regarding children’s interests, development, and learning; and
- c. 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.”<sup>1</sup>

**CONNECTING THE DOTS: TECHNOLOGY AND FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT.** One section of Colorado’s Results Matter Video Library focuses on using technology for authentic assessment ([http://www.cde.state.co.us/resultsmatter/RMVideoSeries\\_UsingTechnology.htm#top](http://www.cde.state.co.us/resultsmatter/RMVideoSeries_UsingTechnology.htm#top)). The fourteen free, downloadable video clips in this section provide



illustrations of different ways in which technology can be an integral and effective part of the formative assessment process.

Consider using the videos in this collection to support learning about and use of a formative assessment process. Here are some examples of how that might work.

- Remind students of the components of a formative assessment process (graphic organizer above; additional information at



<http://scriptnc.fpg.unc.edu/formative-assessment>).

- Show students *Using Technology to Enhance Instruction and Family Engagement* <http://www2.cde.state.co.us/media/resultsmatter/RMSeries/UsingTech-InstructionAndFamilyEngagement.asp>
- Ask students to identify the components of a formative assessment process that were discussed or demonstrated in the video clip.
- Discuss how the use of technology supported the effectiveness of the formative assessment process. Ask students to discuss whether they would be comfortable using technology in this way. If they would not, discuss steps that could be taken to support increased comfort.

This approach could be used with most of the videos in this section of the website.

<sup>1</sup> 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](http://ncchildcare.nc.gov/pdf_forms/definition_and_criteria_for_formative_assessments.pdf)