Clear Targets

STEPS IN THE FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT PROCESS SUPPORTED BY THIS TOOL:

- Understand target
- Produce work
- Compare work with target
- Evaluate strengths and weaknesses
- Prescribe action for improvement
- Take action for improvement

HOW TO USE:

- Identify the assignment.
- Ask students to write the assignment directions as given in class on the left side. (For younger children, do this before photocopying.)
- Ask students to write the assignment characteristics they would need to keep in mind to do a good job.

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

- Look for accuracy, relevance, and completeness:
  - Has the student interpreted the assignment correctly?
  - Are the details the student adds relevant, and would they result in good work on the assignment?
  - Is anything missing from the student’s description of what is needed for good work?

NEXT STEPS:

- If necessary, talk with the student about his or her concept of what would constitute good work on this assignment. The purpose is to focus student thinking so the work supports the learning target.
- Have students keep their “target sheet” with them as they complete the assignment and use it for self-assessment. (This supports the “compare work with target” portion of the process.)
Tools to Use When an Assignment Is Given

**TIPS/VARIATIONS:**

- Allow students to do this activity in groups instead of individually, which should result in even clearer targets.
- Adapt this activity for primary students by drawing the tool on chart paper. Write and say the assignment (e.g., “Color all the pictures that begin with the B sound”), and then write down what the students describe as their ideas of quality work, in storyboard fashion, as the class talks about it.
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Assignment: Book Report on Chapter Book

What is the assignment?


Write a two-paragraph book report. First, give a summary of the story. Second, tell what was your favorite part and why.

What would a good one look like?

It would be about an interesting book.

The summary would tell all the important parts of the story in the right order. It would have a beginning, middle, and end. It would name all the main characters.

My favorite part would be the best part. It would talk about the story and me, too.

The report would be neat. My sentences would be good. It would make other people want to read my book.
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What is the assignment?  
What would a good one look like?