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Assessment That Informs Practice

In an era of state-mandated proficiencies and alternative assessment strategies, educators need practical ideas they can use to meaningfully assess their students' learning and their own practice. These articles will help you do just that.

Welcome to the electronic version of the *ENC Focus* issue on the topic **Assessment that Informs Practice**.

This page provides access to the full text of all articles in the print version of the magazine. Some articles have been enhanced for this electronic version, and the list of theme articles has been organized by content rather than reflecting the layout of the print version.

This electronic version has other benefits. Live links are provided for all web sites mentioned. [Focus on the Collection](#) links to complete catalog records of resources selected from ENC's vast collection.

You will also find theme articles from this issue in the Topic area [Assessment](#). That area will grow as new content is added and links are made to related resources in other areas of ENC Online.

Update: Around the Clearinghouse and the Nation

This section features educational news, editorials, essays, classroom stories, and columns on topics of interest to classroom innovators.

ENC's Partners

[NCTM's Principles and Standards for School Mathematics](#)

by Leah Poynter

ENC in Action

[Tools for Enhancing Professional Development](#)

by Nancy Grimes

Using the Internet

[School and Home Connect Through the World Wide Web](#)

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by Kimberly S. Roempler

Going for Grants

[The Grantwriter's Bookshelf](#)

by Tracy Crow

Focus On Assessment that Informs Practice

This section presents articles on the theme of this issue

Framing the Context

["...Where...All the Children Are Above Average"](#)

by Annette Thorson

[Facing--and Embracing--the Assessment Challenge](#)

by Carol Damian

[Standardized Test Scores and Alternative Assessments: Different Pieces of the Same Puzzle](#)

by William E. Loadman and Anne Marie Thomas

Classroom Assessment

[Implementing Portfolios and Student-Led Conferences](#)

by Jennifer Williams

[Assessing Student Understanding with Interactive-Collaborative-Electronic Learning Logs](#)

by Paul Hickman

[Using Self Evaluation with Fourth Graders](#)

by Leah Poynter

[Assessing Student Learning--and My Teaching--Through Student Journals](#)

by Bill Heinmiller

Standardized Testing

[Determining What Is to be Taught: The Role of Assessment](#)

by Nancy S. Cole

[Statewide Portfolio Assessment in Mathematics: A Teacher's Perspective](#)

by S. Leigh Nataro

[Why You Should Care About TIMSS](#)

by Tracy Crow

[Students Will Rise to the Challenge](#)

by Eugene Watts

[Author Takes on High-Stakes Tests](#)

by Julia Harris

[State Achievement Tests Can Be a Positive Force in Your Classroom](#)

by Mary Ann Stine

[Aligning Assessment with Learning Goals](#)

by Natalie Nielsen

Focus On The Collection

This section presents abstracts of materials from the ENC Collection chosen to illustrate this issue's theme, Assessment that Informs Practice.

[Finding Materials to Meaningfully Assess Students](#) *by Terese Herrera and Carol Damian,*
ENC Instructional Resources

Featured Resources

- [Ideas on What Constitutes Good Assessment](#)
- [Study Group Materials](#)
- [Workshop Materials for Professional Development](#)
- [Practical Skills for Teachers](#)
- [Curriculum Packages with a Strong Assessment Component](#)
- [Internet Sites](#)

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