

# Involving Students in Communicating Their Learning

## Learning Goal:

This Conversation will help participants consider reasons and ways to involve students in communicating their learning.

## Materials:

A copy of *Knowing What Counts: Conferencing and Reporting* by Gregory, Cameron, and Davies (Connections Publishing, Courtenay B.C. [www.connect2learning.com/cp](http://www.connect2learning.com/cp)).

## Getting Started:

1. To introduce this Conversation, summarize pages 7 to 9 in the text, *Knowing What Counts: Conferencing and Reporting*.
2. Form groups of five. Let participants know they will be participating in a simple jigsaw. They will read the text by assignment, then share what they have read:
  - Person #1 Work Samples: page 12 and Criteria with Evidence: pages 23 to 24
  - Person #2 Portfolio Afternoon: pages 13 to 16 and Home Performance: page 27
  - Person #3 Goal Envelopes: pages 17 to 19 (top) and Mind Maps: pages 25 to 26
  - Person #4 Subject Stations: pages 19 to 20 and School Performances: page 28
  - Person #5 Picture This: page 21 and Personal Newsletter: page 29
3. Ask participants to read, looking for ways to involve students in communicating their learning during the term and also to make connections to successful ideas.
4. After the reading, invite people to discuss the ideas, questions, and their own connections in their group.



## Debriefing the Learning:

After participants have finished reporting on the ideas and their personal connections within their small groups, form one large group.

Invite people to share some of the ideas, questions, and connections that arose in the small groups.

## Taking Action:

Ask participants to select one idea to think about or try.

Ask participants to return at a later date to discuss what was tried, what worked, and what didn't. Invite the group to talk about how they adapted the ideas to work with their particular students.

## Extending the Learning:

Continue learning by selecting another conversation that complements this one. Suggest *Self-Assessment and Setting and Using Criteria Conversations*, as both of these ideas help students gain communication skills.