

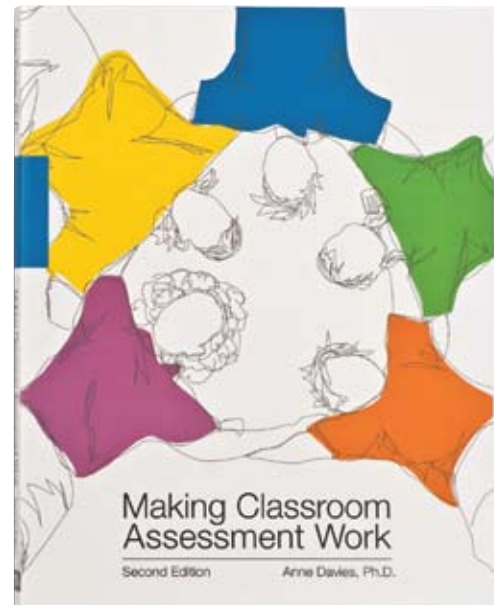
# An Overview of Classroom Assessment

## Learning Goal:

This Conversation will focus on the elements of comprehensive classroom assessment. It will help formulate questions to focus further study and introduce the text, *Making Classroom Assessment Work*.

## Materials:

*Making Classroom Assessment Work* by Anne Davies for each participant. (Connections Publishing, Courtenay B.C. [www.connect2learning.com/cp](http://www.connect2learning.com/cp))



## Getting Started:

1. Explain that the purpose of classroom assessment is to support learning and also to communicate evidence of that learning to others.
2. Note that we all use different strategies to assess learning. We use that information to support learning in different ways, depending on the needs of students. Our job as professionals is to learn about classroom assessment and to choose the set of assessment ideas and strategies that will best aid us in helping students learn.
3. Number off from 1 to 10. Ask each participant to read one chapter in *Making Classroom Assessment Work*, so that the whole book is read. Ask readers to note two or three ideas that capture the message of the chapter, and to form one question about it. If participants finish their reading early, encourage them to browse through the rest of the book until everyone has finished.
4. Arrange participants in "expert groups" (1's together, 2's together, etc.) to discuss their findings and questions.
5. Rearrange participants in groups of 1 to 10. Invite them to talk about the big picture of classroom assessment. Ask one person to record questions that arise.

## Debriefing the Learning:

As a large group, record the questions that have arisen. Invite participants to use these questions to focus future learning.

## Taking Action:

Choose one or more:

- Encourage participants to read the rest of the book and generate more questions.
- Invite participants to work independently on end of chapter tasks.
- Decide the next step in exploring classroom assessment.

## Extending the Learning:

Choose a conversation from the *Facilitator's Guide to Classroom Assessment (K-12)*. Use another book-based conversation.