





Assessment & Evaluation?

Sorry, but I'm too busy teaching...

Joanne Pettis 2012 ALT Branch Conference

Focusing factors at work...



CLB renewal

Governmentpriorities

Basis of standardized placement and exit tests Organizing principle for all Common federal & instructional CLB NCLC provincial approach programs Benchmark for Standard for occupations & language mainstream learning results post-secondary and credentials education

Government Priority

- **CLB Milestone Test**
- Portfolio Based Language
 Assessment (PBLA)

Discussion 1

Assessment is

Assessment is...

a systematic approach to collecting information on student learning and performance based on various sources of evidence to inform teaching and help students learn more.

Purposes of Assessment

- Diagnostic (Placement/Needs)
- **Formative**
- Summative

My Quest...

- An approach to assessment that would...
 - fulfill diagnostic,
 formative and
 summative assessment
 purposes
 - reflect CLB principles
 - promote learning
 - build on and enhance teacher expertise



Advantages of TBA

- scope
- reduces cheating
- validity
- reliability
- fairness

- feedback
- positive washback
- empowers Ts & Ss
- expertise
- cost-effective

TBA is valid & reliable when...

- clear standards
- assessment tasks/criteria
- clear goals
- adequate resources
- opportunity for moderation
- positive 'assessment culture'

Questions...

- Does assessment improve student learning?
- If it does, are there assessment practices that are effective?

Assessment for Learning Principles

- part of effective planning
- focus on how Ss learn
- central to classroom practice
- key professional skill
- sensitive & constructive

- motivating
- learning goals & criteria
- guidance on how to improve
- facilitate self-assessment
- recognizes all learning achievement

Discussion 2

Select one or two of the assessment for learning principles that stand out for you (see handout) and talk about why they stand out and what they mean for your teaching.

Assessment that is explicitly designed to promote learning is the single most powerful tool we have for both raising standards and empowering lifelong learners