



Formative Assessment

Technology Newsletter
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Formative Assessment with Chromebooks

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Using technology to provide formative assessments can give you instant feedback about your students and their learning. There are several good tools that are designed to make assessments quick and easy.

Using an online tool or app for assessment keeps students engaged. Usually these activities are very interactive. They also can include fun music and bright colors to create an energized, game-like atmosphere. The types of feedback and data analysis varies by the tool. Some integrate directly with Google Classroom. Some are designed to be teacher-led while others are designed to let students work

at their own pace.

When thinking about using an assessment tool you should decide what the goal is for your lesson. Do you want to have an informal, fun review or do you want to gather data on student performance?

This newsletter will explain some tool options, provide a comparison between the tools and why you might want to use each of them for different scenarios.

A great website with formative assessment tools can be found here:



Which tool works best?

URL:

[Top Tech Tools for Formative Assessment](https://www.common sense.org/education/top-picks/top-tech-tools-for-formative-assessment)

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If you want to use one of these assessments tools in your classroom and would like some help—Give me a call at x1035

Special points of interest:

- * Quizizz-student directed
- * Kahoot-teacher directed
- * Use PixiClip for “explain your answer”
- * Please contact me if you would like help implementing any of these resources **x1035**

What is Quizizz?-Student directed

Quizizz is a fun multiplayer classroom activity, that allows students to practice together.

It works on all Internet devices and there is an App that has been installed on the Chromebooks.

A big plus for Quizizz is that it integrates directly with Google Classroom!

Why I like Quizizz:

- It is student directed
- All of the information is displayed on the student device
- The teacher can easily see the progress of all students as they work on the quiz.

- Quizizz can be assigned as homework—all students need is the game code and they can complete the work at any time.
- Quizizz provides more data reporting options. Results can be downloaded as an Excel spreadsheet.
- URL: [Quizizz](https://quizizz.com)
<https://quizizz.com>

What is Kahoot?—Teacher directed

Students love competing with each other in Kahoot games. Kahoot offers both classic and team modes which allow students to play a game as an individual or with a group. Students earn points by answering questions quickly and accurately, and enjoy watching the leaderboard throughout the game.

The questions appear on the teachers device and are projected onto the Promethean board. Students will not see the questions or answers on their devices. They only see the symbols that correlate with the answers and pick

from these to answer the question.

One plus is that Kahoot is teacher directed. Students can not move onto a new question until the teacher is ready.

Why I like Kahoot:

- Students like the challenge of competing against each other.
- Kahoot works well as a teaching-tool as the teacher directs the pace.
- New Addition: **JUMBLE**—Jumble questions challenge

players to place answers in the correct order rather than selecting a single correct answer. Higher Order Thinking!

URL: [Check Out Jumble](#)

<https://kahoot.com/blog/2016/12/13/jumble-is-live/>

2 Great Resources for stepping up your game with Kahoot:

[Kahoot Beyond the Basics](#)

[Creating and Playing Learning Games](#)

Other Technology Tools for Formative Assessment-Making Thinking Visible!

Show What You Know:

Screencasts are recordings of what is happening on the screen of a device. They can also capture audio.

You can use the Chromebooks with tools like [Screencast-O-Matic](#) or [PixiClip](#). Students can create a screencast to show their work—you can see what they write on their page and they can narrate what they were thinking as they complete the steps. Students can work in pairs or individually to record their thinking OR make a product that can be shared as a tutorial for other students.

URLS:

<https://screencast-o-matic.com/>

<http://www.pixiclip.com/>

Here is a great video that shows how to use PixiClip with Google Classroom.

[PixiClip and Google Classroom](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d52QbQ-RUnA>

Exit Tickets:

[FlipGrid](#) is a video response platform. Teachers can have online video discussions with students and provide written feedback and give them a score on performance. FlipGrid allows you to use video the way your students do!

Post the question: “What did you learn today?” for students to answer before leaving class. Even better flip the camera and have students explain what they created or accomplished today!

URL: <http://www.flipgrid.com>

A great explanation video can be found at:

[FlipGrid with Google Classroom](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?>

Plickers: Tech without Tech!!

If you don't want to take time getting Chromebooks and having students on devices use Plickers.

The teacher just needs to add the Plicker app to their cell phone and scan the student cards as they hold them up. You could also use a Chromebook. This is probably the quickest way to integrate formative assessment.

Print out the cards that contain a unique number you assign to students. The students hold up the side of the card that represents their answer choice. Using your phone camera and the app you scan the room and Plicker records students answers based on the card they are holding.

Check out this help resource:

[Getting Started with Plickers](#)

I am available to help you in your classroom with these tools—I can also add the apps to the Chromebooks. Contact me at x1035

53 WAYS

To Check for Understanding

1. Summary Poem Activity:

- List 10 key words from an assigned text.
- Do a free verse poem with the words you highlighted.
- Write a summary of the reading based on the words you highlighted.

2. Invent the Quiz

- Write 10 higher-order text questions related to the content. Pick 2 and answer them in half a page.

3. The 411

- Describe the author's objective.

4. Opinion Chart

- List opinions about the content in one half of a T-chart, and support your opinions in the right column.

5. So What? Journal

- Identify the main idea of the lesson. Why is it important?

6. Rate Understanding

7. Clickers (Response System)

8. Teacher Observation Checklist

9. Explaining

- Explain the main idea using an analogy.

10. Evaluate

- What is the author's main point? What are the arguments for and against this idea?

11. Describe

- What are the important characteristics or features of the main concept or idea of the reading?

12. Define

- Pick out an important word or phrase that the author introduces. What does this word or phrase mean?

13. Compare & Contrast

- Identify the theory or idea the author is advancing. Then identify an opposite theory. What are the similarities and differences between these ideas?

14. Question Stems

- I believe that _____ because _____ .
- I am confused by _____ .

15. Mind Map

- Create a mind map that represents a concept using a **diagram-making tool (like Glimy)**. Provide your teacher / classmates with the link to your mind map.

16. Intrigue Journal

- List the five most interesting, controversial, or resonant ideas you found in the readings. Include page #s and a short rationale (100 words) for your selection.

17. Advertisement

- Create an ad, with visuals and text, for the newly learned concept.

18. 5 Words

- What 5 words would you use to describe _____ ? Explain and justify your choices.

19. Muddy Moment

- What frustrates and confuses you about the text? Why?

20. Collage

- Create a collage around the lesson's themes. Explain your choices in one paragraph.

21. Letter

- Explain _____ in a letter to your best friend.

22. Talk Show Panel

- Have a cast of experts debate the finer points of _____ .

23. Study Guide

- What are the main topics, supporting details, important person's contributions, terms, and definitions?

24. Illustration

- Draw a picture that illustrates a relationship between terms in the text. Explain in one paragraph your visual representation.

25. KWL Chart

- What do you know, what do you want to know, and what have you learned?

26. Sticky Notes Annotation

- Use sticky notes to describe key passages that are notable or that you have questions about.

27. 3-2-1

- 3 things you found out, 2 interesting things, and 1 question you still have.

28. Outline

- Represent the organization of _____ by outlining it.