

Formative Assessment Techniques

TO EMPLOY STUDENTS AS LEARNING RESOURCES FOR EACH OTHER

Two Stars and a Wish

Materials

- Students' homework or other formative assignment
- Sticky notes

“Two Stars and a Wish” is a structured format for providing students with feedback on their work. Many teachers use this technique. However, the procedure also lends itself well as a process for introducing students to peer feedback.

Procedure

Each student is provided with another student's work to assess and a sticky note for writing comments. The assessment



Photograph provided by Microsoft

involves writing two observations each noting a positive quality of the work (the two stars) and one suggestion for improvement (the wish). The work is returned to its owner who then decides if he finds the feedback useful.

Adapted
from:

Embedded Assessment

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Developing Criteria for Quality Feedback

After the students have had their first experience with “Two Stars and a Wish,” and they have used the peer comments to polish their work, use the sticky notes to develop class criteria for providing quality feedback.

Collect all of the sticky notes and display them (anonymously) to the class. Have the students vote on which comments would effectively help them to improve their work.

Display the comments that receive the majority of student votes. Have the students identify the important features that make these comments useful. These features become the class criteria for providing quality feedback.

Post the criteria in the classroom for student reference.