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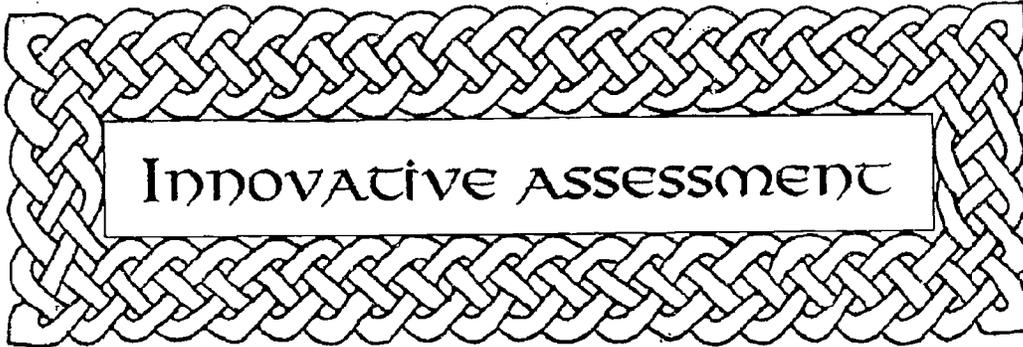
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ABSTRACT

This annotated bibliography represents Test Center holdings to date in the area of assessment alternatives in mathematics and science. Alternative assessment, for the purpose of this bibliography, means assessment other than standardized, norm-referenced assessment. The list emphasizes examples of assessment, such as performance assessments, portfolios, and technological innovations. The references are presented in two sections. The first section contains 108 documents on assessment alternatives in mathematics. The second section contains 75 documents on assessment alternative in science. (MDH)

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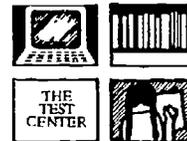
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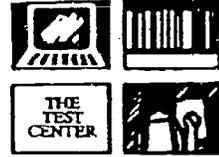
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**Innovative Assessment
Science and Mathematics
Bibliographies**

1993

The Test Center
Evaluation and Assessment Program
Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory
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ASSESSMENT ALTERNATIVES IN MATHEMATICS

The following articles represent Test Center holdings to date in the area of assessment alternatives in mathematics. Presence on the list does not necessarily imply endorsement. Articles are included to stimulate thinking and provide ideas. Some of the entries are formal assessments, and are intended mainly for the classroom. For more information, contact Dr. Judy Arter, Unit Manager, or Matthew Whitaker, Test Center Clerk, at (503) 275-9582, Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, 101 SW Main, Suite 500, Portland, Oregon 97204.

Algina, James, and Sue Legg (Eds.). *Special Issue: The National Assessment of Educational Progress*. Located in: Journal of Educational Measurement, 29, Summer 1992.

This special issue of JEM discusses the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)--history, specification of content and design of assessments for 1992 and beyond, how students are sampled, and how results are reported. Although some articles are somewhat technical, the general pieces on NAEP's history, and the design of current assessments will be interesting to the general readership.

The current plans for math include:

1. Use of calculators for about 70 percent of the test.
2. Estimation skills tasks using an audio tape.
3. Yes/No questions to determine the extent to which students understand the same information when it is presented in different forms.
4. Constructed response questions in which students are asked to document their solutions by drawing their answers, writing explanations, or providing their computations.

Lane, Suzanne. *QUASAR Cognitive Assessment Instrument, (QCAI)*, 1993. Available from: **QUASAR (Quantitative Understanding: Amplifying Student Achievement and Reasoning), Learning Research & Development Center, University of Pittsburgh, 3939 O'Hara St., Pittsburgh, PA 15260. (412) 624-7791.**

The QCAI (QUASAR Cognitive Assessment Instrument) is designed to measure long-term growth of students in the area of math thinking and reasoning skills. Information for this review was taken from the following publications: *Principles for Developing Performance Assessments: An Example of Their Implementation* (Lane & Carol Parke, AERA, 1992); *Empirical Evidence for the Reliability and Validity of Performance Assessments* (Lane, Clement Stone, Robert Ankenmann & Mai Liu, AERA, 1992); *The Conceptual Framework for Development of a Mathematics Performance Assessment Instrument* (Lane, AERA, 1991); *Validity Evidence for Cognitive Complexity of Performance Assessments: An Analysis of Selected QUASAR Tasks* (Maria Magone, Jinfa Cai, Edward Silver, and Nign Wang, AERA, 1992); and *Conceptual and Operational Aspects of Rating Student Responses to Performance Assessments* (Patricia Kenney and Huixing Tang, AERA, 1992).

Thirty-three tasks were designed for sixth and seventh graders. No single student receives more than nine tasks in any 45-minute sitting. The tasks were designed to provide a good sample of math thinking and reasoning skills by having a variety of representations, approaches and problem strategies. Specifically, students were asked to provide a justification for a selected answer or strategy, explain or show how an answer was found, translate a problem into another representation (picture or equation), pose a mathematical question, interpret provided data, and extend a pattern and describe underlying regularities. The tasks were carefully field-tested for bias and confusing or difficult instructions. General descriptions for all the tasks, and details on a few individual tasks are provided in these materials.

Scoring is done via a generalized holistic 4-point rubric which directs raters to consider mathematical knowledge, strategic knowledge and communication. (Each of these dimensions is laid out very clearly and could be used as the basis of an analytical trait scoring scale.) The generalized rubric is then applied to each problem by specifying features of responses that would fall at different scale points. The generalized scoring guide is included in these materials, but not the task-specific adaptations.

(TC# 500.3QUACOA)

Larter, Sylvia. *Benchmarks: The Development of a New Approach to Student Evaluation*, 1991. Available from: **Toronto Board of Education, 155 College Street, Toronto, ON M5T 1P6, CANADA, (416) 598-4931.**

Benchmarks are student performances on tasks tied to Provincial educational goals. Each Benchmark activity lists the goals to be addressed, the task, and the scoring system. To develop the Benchmarks, two observers were used for each student--one to interact with the student and one to record observations. Tasks vary considerably. Some require very discrete responses (e.g., knowledge of multiplication facts using whatever means the student needs to

complete the task), while some are more open-ended. There are 129 Benchmarks developed in language and mathematics for grades 3, 6, and 8.

For many of the tasks, a general, holistic, seven-point scale ("no response" to "exceptional performance [rare]") was used as the basis to develop five-point holistic scoring scales specific to each task. For other tasks, scoring appears to be right/wrong. Holistic scoring seems to emphasize problem solving, method of production, process skills, and accuracy, although students can also be rated on perseverance, confidence, willingness, and prior knowledge, depending on the Benchmark.

The percentage of students at each score point (e.g., 1-5) is given for comparison purposes, as are other statistics (such as norms) when appropriate. Anchor performances (e.g., what a "3" performance looks like) are available either on video or in hard copy.

This report describes the philosophy behind Benchmarks, how they were developed, and a few of the specific Benchmarks. Some technical information is described (factor analysis, rater agreement), but no student performances are provided.

(TC# 100.6BENCHM)

Lash, Andrea. *Arithmetic Word Problems: Activities to Engage Students in Problem Analysis*, 1985. Available from: Far West Laboratory, 730 Harrison St., San Francisco, CA 94107, (415) 565-3000.

This is a book of arithmetic word problems selected by the author to promote problem solving. Some are multiple-choice and some are open-response. The author categorizes problems as being "word problems," "process problems," "applied problems," and "puzzle problems." The author also presents a model for the steps in problem solving and a discussion of the implications for instruction. Problems are grouped according to the step in the problem-solving process they relate to.

Most of the problems have only one right answer and none seem to utilize manipulatives. However, problems are presented for addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, multi-step problems, and problems containing unnecessary information.

(TC# 500.2ARIWOP)

Lash, Andrea. *An Assessment of Mathematical Problem-Solving Skills*, 1985. Available from: Far West Laboratory, 730 Harrison St., San Francisco, CA 94107, (415) 565-3000.

This monograph describes a study which examined seventh graders' skill in one aspect of mathematical problem solving--problem analysis. Problem analysis includes identifying information necessary to solve a problem, separating relevant from irrelevant information.

identifying intermediate steps, and representing the information in a problem with a table or diagram.

The monograph describes possible assessment procedures for problem analysis (rating of open-ended solutions, purposeful multiple-choice), why they selected the latter procedure, and the types of problems that elicit problem analysis skills. The complete instrument is included.

(TC# 510.3ANASSO)

Leach, Eilene L. *An Alternative Form of Evaluation that Complies with NCTM's Standards.* Located in: *The Mathematics Teacher*, 85, November 1992, pp. 628-632. Also available from Centaurus High School, 10300 S. Boulder Rd., Lafayette, CO 80026.

This teacher uses scored discussions to assess and promote problem solving, communicating mathematically, and group process skills in her high school math classes. She has three to six students face each other in front of the rest of the class and spend about five minutes trying to solve a problem. Individuals can earn positive points for such things as "determining a possible strategy to use," "recognizing misused properties or arithmetic errors," or "moving the discussion along." They can earn negative points by doing such things as: "not paying attention or distracting others," and "monopolizing."

The article has a thorough discussion of how the teacher sets up the classroom, introduces the procedure to students, scores the discussion, and handles logistics. She also discusses the positive effects this procedure has had on students, and the additional insight she has obtained about her students.

All her scoring is teacher-centered, but it wouldn't necessarily have to be. No technical information is included.

(TC# 500.3ALTFOE)

Lehman, Michael. *Assessing Assessment: Investigating a Mathematics Performance Assessment, 1992.* Available from: The National Center for Research on Teacher Learning, 116 Erickson Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824-1034.

This monograph, by a high school math teacher, describes his attempt to develop a better method of assessing algebra problem solving, concepts, and skills than traditional paper and pencil tests. The assessment technique involves giving students problems to solve as a group, and then having them explain their results in front of a panel of judges. Three examples of problems are provided, as is a brief description of the scoring criteria (making sense of the problem, and problem-solving strategies), accuracy of results, interpreting results, ability to communicate results, and an explanation of what they did. However, these criteria are not elaborated on, and, although samples of student explanations are provided, these are used to describe the understandings the teacher reached about his students, not to anchor the performance criteria.

The author also provides a brief summary of the strategies he uses to help students develop greater depth in their understanding of algebraic principals and their interrelationships--small group cooperative learning, reasoning justifications of approaches, etc.

(TC# 530.3ASSASI)

Lehman, Michael. *Performance Assessment--Math*, 1992. Available from: **Michael Lehman, Holt Senior High School, 1784 Aurelius Rd., Holt, MI 48842, (517) 694-2162.**

This paper is related to the one above, and provides additional information. Students are given six problems (some having only one right answer and some having more than one right answer) to solve as a team (four students per team). The team then spends an hour with a panel of three judges. Judges can ask any student to explain the team's solution and problem-solving strategy on any of the six problems. (Therefore, all students must have knowledge of all six problems.) Then the judges assign the team a new problem to work on while they watch.

Student responses are scored on: making sense of the problem, solution strategies, accuracy of results, ability to communicate results, ability to answer questions posed by the judges, three judgments of group process skills, and an overall judgment of student understanding.

A complete set of 10 tasks (six pre-assigned, and four on-the-spot) are included for Algebra II. The scoring guide and a few sample pre-calculus projects are also included. No technical information or sample student performances are included.

(TC# 500.3PERASM)

Lesh, Richard. *Computer-Based Assessment of Higher Order Understandings and Processes in Elementary Mathematics*. Located in: Assessing Higher Order Thinking in Mathematics, Gerald Kulm (Ed.), 1990. Available from: **American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1333 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20005, (301) 645-5643.**

This article is as much about how meaningful learning occurs and the nature of the structure of knowledge in mathematics, as it is about use of computers in math instruction and assessment. The basic premise is that computer-based tests should not simply be pencil-and-paper tests delivered on-line. They should be part of an integrated instruction and assessment system that supports both learning facts and developing the meaningful internal structuring of these facts to form a coherent knowledge system.

The article discusses three things:

1. principles underlying a modeling perspective of learning and assessment (ideas such as learning and problem-solving situations are interpreted by the learner by mapping them to internal models, and several "correct" alternative models may be available to interpret a given situation)

2. five objectives that should be emphasized in K-12 math (such as going beyond isolated bits of knowledge to construct well-organized systems of knowledge, and think about thinking)
3. specific types of assessment items that can be used to measure these deeper and broader understandings (such as conceptual networks and interactive word problems)

Many sample problems are provided.

(TC# 500.6COMBAA)

Lester, Frank K., Jr. *An Assessment Model for Mathematical Problem Solving*. Located in: Teaching Thinking and Problem Solving, 10, September/October, 1988, pp. 4-7. Also available from: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc., Journal Subscription Department, 365 Broadway, Hillsdale, NJ 07642, (800) 962-6579

This article presents a model for assessing both the problem solving performance of students and assessing the task demands of the problem to be solved. The dimensions of problem solving (which could be used as a scoring rubric) are: understanding/formulating the question in a problem, understanding the conditions and variables in the problem, selecting the data needed to solve the problem, formulating subgoals and selecting appropriate solution strategies to pursue, implementing the solution strategy and attaining subgoals, providing an answer in terms of the data in the problem, and evaluating the reasonableness of an answer. The article describes these in some detail.

The problem features that can affect a student's success in solving a problem are: the type of problem, the strategies needed to solve it, the mathematical content/types of numbers used, and the sources from which data need to be obtained to solve the problem.

(TC# 500.3ANASSM)

Lester, Frank K. Jr., and Diana Lambdin-Kroll. *Assessing Student Growth in Mathematical Problem Solving*. Located in: Assessing Higher Order Thinking in Mathematics, Gerald Kulm (Ed.), 1990. Available from: American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1333 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20005, (301) 645-5643.

The authors present a model of factors that influence problem-solving performance, and discuss several problem-solving assessment techniques

A good assessment program in math should collect information about the following: affect (attitudes, preferences, and beliefs), and cognitive/processes ability to get the right answer (both whether they get the right answer, and the strategies used). The program should also systematically define and cover the features of tasks (problem type, math content, required strategies, etc.) since these affect performance and should be reflected in instruction

In order to gather information on these three categories of factors, the authors briefly review observations, interviews, student self-reports, and holistic and analytic scoring of performances. They recommend against multiple-choice questions.

This paper is a general theoretical discussion; no actual tasks, problems or scoring guidelines are provided.

(TC# 500.6ASSSTG)

Long, Donna J. *Mathematics Proficiency Guide*, 1991. Available from: Indiana Department of Education, Room 229, State House, Indianapolis, IN 46204, (317) 232-9155.

Although not strictly about assessment, this document has a nice description of mathematics proficiencies at various grade levels tied to specific instructional tasks. Proficiencies include: problem solving strategies, reasoning, communication, developing cognitive structures, applying math across the curriculum, and various knowledges (e.g., decimal places, measurement, and geometry).

(TC# 500.5MATPRG)

Marshall, Sandra P. *Assessing Knowledge Structures in Mathematics: A Cognitive Science Perspective*. Located in: Cognitive Assessment of Language and Mathematics Outcomes, Sue Legg & James Algina (Eds.), 1990. Available from: Ablex Publishing Company, 355 Chestnut St., Norwood, NJ 07648.

This article discusses the implications of recent advances in cognitive science for mathematics assessment. The goal in using this research to develop assessment techniques is to determine the extent to which students have acquired specific cognitive skills rather than merely whether they can correctly solve particular problems.

Cognitive theory holds that people solve problems by using three knowledge structures-- declarative (facts), procedural (algorithms and production rules), and schema (frames that relate facts and production rules). To solve a problem, a person must first find the right schema, must then correctly implement a set of production rules, and must have stored correctly the facts and knowledge required to carry out the necessary algorithms specified by the production rules. Errors can occur in any of these three areas.

Researchers are currently engaged in specifying these knowledge structures in such detail that they can develop computer simulations that can, first, solve problems, and second, reproduce student errors by leaving out or altering various parts of the necessary structures. In this way, errors in student responses can be tracked back to the erroneous structure used. The author specifically mentions work in the area of simple arithmetic operations, geometry, and word problems

Additionally, the author discusses two other ways of assessing these things in students-- reaction time (to assess how automatic a function is); and multiple-choice problems (e.g., "which of the following problems can be solved in the same way as the one stated above?" to get at schema knowledge). Some time is spent with multiple-choice problems to explore various types of problems and the technical issues that arise with them.

It should be pointed out that all these procedures are experimental; none have progressed to the point where there is a final product that can be ordered and installed.

(TC# 500.6ASSKNS)

Marshall, Sandra P. *The Assessment of Schema Knowledge for Arithmetic Story Problems: A Cognitive Science Perspective*, 1990. Located in: Assessing Higher Order Thinking in Mathematics, Gerald Kulm (Ed.). Available from: American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1333 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20005, (301) 645-5643.

The Story Problem Solver (SPS) was created to support instruction based on a theory of memory architecture called schemata. Under such theories, human memory consists of networks of related pieces of information. Each network is a schema--a collection of well-connected facts, features, algorithms, skills, and/or strategies.

Adult students are explicitly taught five problem-solving schemas and how to recognize which schema is represented by a story problem. SPS is a computerized assessment method in which several different item types are used: students pick out the schema or general solution strategy that fits a given story problem, decide which information in the story problem fits into the various frames of the schema, identify the steps needed to solve a problem, and decide whether the necessary information is given in the problem.

Some of the schema shells and item types are given as examples. No technical information is included.

(TC# 500.3ASSOFS)

Maryland Department of Education. *Maryland School Performance Assessment Program*, 1991. Available from: Gail Lynn Goldberg, Maryland Department of Education, Maryland School Performance Assessment Program, 200 W. Baltimore St., Baltimore, MD 21201, (410) 333-2000.

Maryland has released six performance tasks that illustrate the 1992 assessment. This review is based on three of them, one task at each of grades 3, 5 and 8. The tasks are integrated across subject areas and use some combination of information and skills in science, math, writing, reading, and social studies. The three tasks we have relate to the weather (Grade 3), snowy regions of the country (Grade 5) and collisions (Grade 8). Each task has both individual and group work and proceeds through a series of tasks that require reading.

designing and conducting experiments, observing and recording information, and writing up results.

Student responses are scored using two basic approaches: generalized holistic or analytical trait scoring guides for the "big" outcomes such as communication skills, problem solving, scientific process, and reasoning; and specific holistic ratings of conceptual knowledge and applications. For example, the task on collisions is scored both for knowledge of the concepts of mass and rate/distance, and for general science process skills (collecting and organizing data, and observation) and communication skills. Thus, some scoring guides are generalized across tasks, and some list specific features from individual tasks to watch for.

The materials we have allude to anchor performances and training materials, but these are not included in our samples. Neither information about student performance, nor technical information about the tests is included.

(TC# 500.3MDSCMA)

Maryland State Department of Education. *Scoring MSPAP (Maryland School Performance Assessment Program): A Teacher's Guide*, 1993. Available from: Gail Lynn Goldberg, Maryland Department of Education, Maryland School Performance Assessment Program, 200 W. Baltimore St., Baltimore, MD 21201, (410) 333-2000.

This document presents information about the 1993 MSPAP: philosophy, general approach, sample tasks, and performance criteria. There are sample tasks, performance criteria and student responses for the following areas: expository, persuasive and expressive writing, reading comprehension, math, science, and social studies.

Scoring can be done three different ways depending on the task: generalized scoring rubrics that can be used across tasks (e.g., persuasive writing); generalized scoring rules that are not as detailed as rubrics (e.g., language usage); and scoring keys that are task-specific (e.g., many math tasks are scored for the degree of "correctness" of the response)

No technical information is included.

(TC# 000.3SCOMST)

Maryland State Department of Education. *Teacher to Teacher Talk: Student Performance on MSPAP (Maryland School Performance Assessment Program)*, 1992. Available from: Gail Lynn Goldberg, Maryland Department of Education, Maryland School Performance Assessment Program, 200 W. Baltimore St., Baltimore, MD 21201, (410) 333-2000.

This publication presents teacher reactions to their experience of scoring performance assessment tasks on the 1992 Maryland School Performance Assessment Program (MSPAP). The MSPAP covered reading, writing, math, social studies and science in grades 3, 5, and 8

Comments are organized by grade and subject. Most comments have to do with two topics: what teachers learned about students as the result of participating in the scoring, and how the performance tasks should be revised.

(TC# 000.6TEATET)

Marzano, Robert J., Debra J. Pickering, Jo Sue Whisler, et al. *Authentic Assessment*, undated. Available from: Mid-Continent Regional Laboratory (McREL), 2550 S. Parker Rd., Suite 500, Aurora, CO 80014, (303) 337-0990.

This document appears to be a series of handouts used in training. Although not specifically about math, the document does discuss some "big" outcomes related to math such as complex thinking, information processing, communication, etc.

Materials include definitions of assessment terms, a procedure for developing performance assessment tasks, and samples of tasks and scoring guides. The general approach is mix and match--tasks are meant to elicit several target behaviors on the part of students which are then scored with generic performance criteria. For example, a problem-solving task requires students to draw a picture of their neighborhoods without using any circles or squares. Performances are scored for knowledge (geometry), complex thinking (ability to identify obstacles in the way of achieving desired outcomes), and effective communication (ability to express ideas clearly).

Sample tasks are in the areas of science, math and social studies. There are general mix and match scoring guides for: Knowledgeable Person, Complex Thinker, Information Processor, Effector Communicator/Producer, Self-Directed Learner, and Collaborative Worker. Scoring guides are generally not very descriptive. For example, one of the three traits included in the scoring guide for Skilled Information Processor is "effectively interprets and synthesizes information." To get a "4" (the highest score possible) the student "consistently interprets information gathered for tasks in accurate and highly insightful ways and provides synthesis of that information that are highly creative and unique." This is basically just a restatement of the trait title.

The authors have begun to develop a useful approach to performance assessment (mix and match tasks and performance criteria), but the criteria need to be filled out a little more.

(TC# 150.6AUTASS)

Massachusetts Educational Assessment Program. *On Their Own: Student Response to Open-Ended Tests in Mathematics*, [Massachusetts Educational Assessment Program -- *Math Open-Ended and Performance Tasks*.], 1991. Available from: Dr. Allan Hartman, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Department of Education, 1385 Hancock St., Quincy, MA 02169, (617) 770-7334.

The document we received contained assessment materials for grades 4, 8, and 12 from three years (1988-1990) in four subject areas (reading, social studies, science and math). This entry describes the math portions of the assessments. The 1988 and 1990 materials described open-ended test items in which students had to solve a problem and then explain their answer. In 1988 eight problems were administered to each of the three grades (some problems were repeated between grades). In 1990, ten problems were administered. These problems emphasized the major areas of patterns/relationships, geometry/measurement, and numerical/statistical concepts. All problems were done individually in written format. Problems were distributed in such a way that different students responded to different questions. Responses were scored both for correctness of solution and for quality of the explanation. No specific criteria for judging quality of explanation were given. Many examples of student responses illustrating various conclusions are included.

In 1989, a sample of 2,000 students was assigned one of seven performance tasks (four in math required manipulatives) to do in diads. Each pair was individually watched by an evaluator. Each evaluator could observe between six and ten pairs each day. It took 65 evaluators five days to observe the 2,000 performances. Evaluators were to both check off those things that students did correctly (e.g., measured temperature correctly), and record observations of students' conversations and strategies as completely as possible. A sample checklist of skills includes: measuring, proportional reasoning, equivalency, numeration, attitude, and planning/execution.

Some information on results for all the assessments is provided: percentages of students getting correct answers, using various strategies, using efficient methods, giving good explanations, etc., depending on the task. Many examples of student responses illustrating these various points are provided. No technical information about the assessments themselves is provided.

(TC# 500.3MASOPM)

McTighe, Jay. *Maryland Assessment Consortium: A Collaborative Approach to Performance Assessment*, 1991. Available from: Maryland Assessment Consortium, c/o Frederick County Public Schools, 115 E. Church St., Frederick, MD 21701, (301) 694-1337.

This entry contains handouts from a presentation by the author in 1991. The following topics are covered:

1. A description of the consortium--what it is and what it does.
2. An overview of the process used for developing performance tasks, and review criteria for performance tasks.
3. Examples of three performance assessment tasks developed by the consortium: one math problem-solving task for grade six and two fifth grade reading tasks. All tasks are

scored using a four-point holistic scoring guide. Scoring appears to be generalized rather than tied to individual tasks. The reading tasks, for example, are scored using the same, generalized scoring guide.

(TC# 500.3MARASC)

McTighe, Jay. *Teaching and Testing in Maryland Today: Education for the 21st Century*, 1992. Available from: Maryland Assessment Consortium, c/o Frederick County Public Schools, 115 E. Church St., Frederick, MD 21701, (301) 694-1337.

This 13-minute video is designed to introduce parents and community members to performance assessment.

(TC# 150.6TEATEMv)

Mead, Nancy. *IAEP (International Assessment of Educational Progress) Performance Assessment (Science and Math)*, 1992. Available from: Educational Testing Service, Rosedale Rd., Princeton, NJ 08541, (609) 734-1526.

This document supplements the report by Brian Semple (also described in this bibliography) (TC# 500.6PERASS). The document contains the administrators manual, scoring guide, equipment cards, and released items from the Second International Assessment of Educational Progress in science and mathematics.

(TC# 500.3IAEPPA)

Medrich, Elliott A., and Jeanne E. Griffith. *International Mathematics and Science Assessments: What Have We Learned?*, 1992. Available from: National Technical Information Service, US Department of Commerce, 5285 Port Royal Rd., Springfield, VA 22161, (703) 487-4650.

This report provides a description of the international assessments of math and science (First International Mathematics and Science Studies, 1960's; Second International Mathematics and Science Studies, 1980's; and First International Assessment of Educational Progress, 1988), some of their findings, and issues surrounding the collection and analysis of these data. It also offers suggestions about ways in which new data collection procedures could improve the quality of the surveys and the utility of future reports.

(TC# 000.6INTMAS)

Meinhard, Richard. *A Developmental Baseline Profile of 12 Key Elementary Science Concepts/Processes*, 1990. Available from: Institute for Developmental Sciences, Oregon Cadre for Assistance to Teachers of Science (OCATS), 3957 E. Burnside, Portland, OR 97214, or by calling (214) 234-4600.

The OCATS (Oregon Cadre for Assistance to Teachers of Science) project is designed to encourage concept/process-based science education in order to promote long-range student growth in science. One part of this project has been to gather information on how twelve science and math concepts develop in students from K to 5. The concepts are: organization of objects (simple classification, multiple classification, seriation, whole number operations), geometrical and spatial relationships of objects (perimeter, area, multiplicative projective relationships); physical properties of objects (quantity, weight, volume); experimental reasoning (controlling variables); causal explanation (proportional reasoning).

One performance task was given to the students for each concept area. Performance was rated for developmental stage: sensory-motor, pre-operational, operational, and form. Each stage has two substages for a final scale having eight points.

Descriptive information is available for 40 K-5 students. Neither the performance tasks nor the scoring techniques are described in detail in this paper. No technical information, except distribution of performance, is included.

(TC# 600.6DEVBAP)

Meltzer, L. J. *Surveys of Problem-Solving & Educational Skills*, 1987. Available from: Educator's Publishing Service, Inc., 75 Moulton St., Cambridge, MA 02138.

Although this is an individual test published primarily for diagnosing learning disabilities for students aged 9-14, it has some interesting ideas that could be more generally applied. There are two parts to the test--a more-or-less standard individualized aptitude test, and a series of achievement subtests. The math subtest involves a fairly standard test of computation. The interesting part comes in the scoring. Each problem is scored on choice of correct operations, ability to complete the word problem, efficiency of mental computation, self-monitoring, self-correction, attention to operational signs, and attention to detail (one point for evidence of each trait).

After the entire subtest is administered, the teacher is guided through analysis of the student's strategies in completing the task--efficiency of approaching tasks, flexibility in applying strategies, style of approaching tasks, attention to the task, and responsiveness during assessment. (Each area is assigned a maximum of three points for the presence or absence of three specific features of performance. For example, under "efficiency" the students get a point if he or she does not need frequent repeating of instructions, a second point if the student implements the directions rapidly, and a third point if the student perseveres to complete the task.) Examples of scoring are included.

A fair amount of technical information is included. This covers typical performance, factor analysis, inter-rater reliability, relationship to other measures of performance, and comparison of clinical groups.

(TC# 010.3SUROFP)

Mullen, Kenneth B. *Free-Response Mathematics Test, 1992.* Available from: American College Testing Program, PO Box 168, Iowa City, IA 52240, (319) 337-1051.

This was a paper presented at the annual meeting of the National Council on Measurement in Education, San Francisco, April 1992.

This paper reports on a study by ACT that compares multiple-choice, open-response, and gridded response item formats on reliability, difficulty and discrimination. In gridded response items, students fill in "bubbles" that correspond to the answer rather than choosing the answer from a given list. "Testlets" were designed to cover the same content and have the same test length for each format. Results indicated that all formats had about the same reliability; there was good rater agreement on the open-ended problems; and grid and open-ended problems discriminated better between students with different achievement levels. The correlation between performances on the various types of items ranged from 0.5 to 0.7.

A few sample problems are provided. All open-response questions used scoring criteria that emphasize degree of correctness of the response and were tied to the task (i.e., there was a different scoring guide for each problem).

(TC# 500.3FREREM)

Mumme, Judy. *Portfolio Assessment in Mathematics, 1990.* Available from: California Mathematics Project, University of California--Santa Barbara, 522 University Rd., Santa Barbara, CA 93106, (805) 961-3190.

This booklet describes what mathematical portfolios are, what might go into such portfolios, how items should be selected, the role of student self-reflection, and what might be looked for in a portfolio. Many student samples are provided. Criteria for evaluating portfolios include: evidence of mathematical thinking, quality of activities and investigation, and variety of approaches and investigations. No technical information is included.

(TC# 500.6PORASI)

Zarinnia, E. Anne, and Thomas A. Romberg. *A Framework for the California Assessment Program to Report Students' Achievement in Mathematics*. Located in: Mathematics Assessment and Evaluation: Imperatives for Mathematics Educators, Thomas A. Romberg (Ed.), 1992. Available from: State University of New York Press, State University Plaza, Albany, NY 12246.

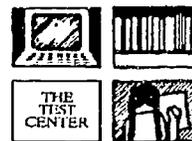
This paper takes the position that assessment affects instruction, and therefore, regardless of the other purposes for the assessment, the instructional implications of our assessments must be taken into account. "If one acknowledges student learning as the central mission of schooling, it further suggests that not only the tasks, but also the system and structures for gathering accountability information and reporting the data, should be designed with instructional needs in mind "

Other points made by this paper are:

1. We need to change the view of math held by many teachers and the general public, that math is a set of rules and formalisms invented by experts that everyone else is to memorize. The authors maintain that both the test itself and the way results are reported will influence these perceptions
2. Mathematical power means that citizens can use math to solve day-to-day problems. This means we need to seek evidence of students using, reflecting on, and inventing mathematics in the context of value and policy judgments. These experiences should be built into our instruction and assessments

Implications for turning power over to students are also discussed

(TC# 500.6FRACAA)



ASSESSMENT ALTERNATIVES IN SCIENCE

The following entries represent current Test Center holdings in the area of alternative assessment ideas for science. "Alternative," for this purpose, means "other than standardized, norm-referenced." The list emphasizes performance assessments, portfolios, technological innovations, etc. Some of the entries may be intended for informal, classroom use. For more information, contact Judy Arter, Senior Research Associate, or Matthew Whitaker, Test Center Clerk, at (503) 275-9582, Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory, 101 SW Main, Suite 500, Portland, Oregon 97204.

Abraham, Michael R., Eileen Bross Grzybowski, John W. Renner, and Edmund A. Marek.
Understandings and Misunderstandings of Eighth Graders of Five Chemistry Concepts Found in Textbooks. Located in: Journal of Research in Science Teaching, 29, 1992, pp. 105-120.

The study reported in this paper looked at how well grade eight students understand five concepts in chemistry: chemical change, dissolution, conservation of atoms, periodicity, and phase-change. There are five problems, one associated with each concept. Each problem describes (and/or shows) a problem situation and asks one to three questions. Some questions require short answers and some require explanations of answers.

Each response is scored on a six-point scale from "no response" to "specific misunderstanding" to "sound understanding" of the concept. The paper gave some examples of misunderstandings shown by the students.

The authors found that very few students really understood the concepts. They speculate that this may either be due to the nature of instruction (mostly textbook driven and little

students to be lifelong learners and critical thinkers. The article briefly mentions some of the implications for assessment of this philosophy.

(TC#600.6FUTTRT)

Yager, Robert E. and Alan J. McCormack. *Assessing Teaching/Learning Successes in Multiple Domains of Science and Science Education.* Located in: **Science Education**, 73, 1989, pp. 45-58.

This article describes the authors' view of the proper targets for instruction in science (knowing and understanding, exploring and discovering, imagining and creating, feeling and valuing, and using and applying), goes on to describe the STS (Science-Technology-Society) approach to teaching science, and then lists some tests (mostly multiple-choice) that attempt to measure the targets. The paper is included on this bibliography mainly for the first two points.

(TC#600.5ASSTEL)