

Standard 8

Assessment: Teachers know how to test for student progress.

The teacher understands and uses formal and informal assessment strategies to evaluate and ensure the continuous intellectual, social, and physical development of the pupil.

ELLCO and PALS Assessments
February 2011

Description of Artifact

I worked with my cousin on his name writing, alphabet knowledge (upper and lower case letter recognition) and letter sounds (including beginning sound awareness) to complete the PALS assessment, which is a more formal assessment. He is four years old and excelled in all areas of the assessment. For the alphabet recognition the child had to know at least sixteen upper case letters in order to be quizzed on the lower case letters and they had to know at least nine lower case letters to be quizzed on letter sounds. My cousin knew all twenty-six upper and lower case letters and twenty-four letter sounds. He struggled with a few two letter sounding words, otherwise he knew them all. Next, I showed him some different cards with pictures on them for him to identify. All the cards started with the letter /M/, /S/, or /B/. He only didn't recognize two pictures. I thought he did very well for his age. For the informal assessment I completed an ELLCO (Literacy Environment Checklist) assessment in my kindergarten placement. This assessment asked questions such as: "Is there an area set aside just for book reading?", or "Are there three or more books related to the current theme?"

Alignment Reflections

Wisconsin Teacher Standard Alignment

These two assessments best align with *Standard 8- Assessment: Teachers know how to test for student progress. The teacher understands and uses formal and informal assessment strategies to evaluate and ensure the continuous intellectual, social, and physical development of the pupil.* The ELLCO best aligns with this standard because it fulfills the informal assessment piece of the standard. This is an assessment that is an observation, questions, or an authentic or performance assessment. This best fits because it was an observation of the classroom and how it is laid out for the students' availability. The PALS (Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening) assessment fits best with a formal assessment because it is actually testing a student's ability to know their letters and word recognition. By testing a student on these things can judge how much practice they may need or if they are ready to start learning more difficult words.

UW-Platteville School of Education Knowledge, Skill, Disposition Statement Alignment

This artifact addresses ***KSD1.f. Assesses Student Learning***. *The candidate understands, is committed to, and can develop assessments that are clearly stated and congruent with instructional goals. The students are aware of how they are meeting the established standards and are involved in the goal setting process.* I believe the artifact best aligns with this KSD because the teacher can assess the students more than one time with the same materials to see if they are making progress or not. If they aren't where they should be, certain goals will be set for the student to meet by the next time they are assessed. This artifact demonstrates this KSD by quizzing a student on their letter and alphabet recognition more than just one time. For example, the child would be assessed at the beginning, middle and end of the school year to see progression.

Secondary KSD Alignments:

KSD.4.b. Maintains Accurate Records

KSD3.d. Provides Feedback to Students

Personal Reflection

What I learned about teaching/learning from this experience:

I learned that it is best to assess a student more than one time to obtain accurate results. It might also be helpful to choose a student who is a little bit of a slower learner in the beginning, to have room for improvement. I also learned that it might be helpful to look through word flash cards to help improve the child's word recognition.

What I learned about myself as a prospective educator as a result of this experience:

I really enjoyed sitting and talking with my four year old cousin and being able to give him my assistance when he needed a hint or two. I have learned from him that not all students are going to know all their letters, upper and lower case at the age of four, just because he did, doesn't mean that everyone is as fast of a learner as him. I have also learned how important both of these assessments are to both the students and teacher. The PALS is important because it shows how much the students know and the ELLCO because it shows what you need as a teacher to help make a successful classroom.