

# Formative Learning

by  
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Formative learning is a process that includes the following components involving both educators and students in a cycle of learning:

1. Educators identify and unpack standards (BT, DOK) and **create models** of what the final learning outcomes look like.
2. Educators assess their students' work at the beginning of the learning cycle as **evidence of each student's knowledge** of concepts and skills stated in the selected standards.
3. Students and educators **collaboratively generate specific success criteria** that are in alignment with the standards.
4. Throughout the learning process, students **determine their personal learning goals** and work toward accomplishing those goals.
5. Based on the evidence of student learning, educators give **frequent, focused feedback** that guides students' learning and builds their confidence as they master new learning.

6. Within this learning cycle, educators provide **ample opportunities for students to self-assess their progress** based on the specific success criteria.
7. Students are also provided with the opportunity to **peer-assess using the success criteria**. Educators provide clear guidelines for peer-assessment, only requiring students to give feedback to one another on criteria that the students are prepared to address.
8. To guide student learning more thoroughly, educators give specific and timely feedback throughout the learning process. In addition, educators **employ a variety of research-grounded instructional practices** providing learners with alternate ways to master the concepts and skills identified in the standards.
9. Students are given many opportunities to apply the standards-based success criteria as they **revise their work according to the feedback they have received**.
10. Providing students with **multiple opportunities for success** is the main component of the formative learning process.

## Just Try

Try,  
Try more.  
Try one more time.  
Try it a little differently.  
Try it again tomorrow.  
Try and ask for help.  
Try to find someone who has done it.  
Try to determine what is working.  
Just keep trying.

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