

Supplemental Material

CBE—Life Sciences Education

Offerdahl *et al.*

Supplementary materials

Table S1: Representative examples of empirical and/or theoretical work in support of the proposed critical components of formative assessment.

| Critical Component | Description | Representative Examples |
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| Learning Outcomes | Clear criteria for success are identified. | <p>Rust, C., Price, M., & O'Donovan, B. (2003). Improving students' learning by developing their understanding of assessment criteria and processes. <i>Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education</i>, 28(2), 147-164.</p> <p>Norton, L. (2004). Using assessment criteria as learning criteria: a case study in psychology. <i>Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education</i>, 29(6), 687-702.</p> <p>Handley, K., & Williams, L. (2011). From copying to learning: Using exemplars to engage students with assessment criteria and feedback. <i>Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education</i>, 36(1), 95–108.</p> |
| Formative assessment prompts | Mechanisms for eliciting the range and extent of students' understanding are employed. | <p>Tsai, C. C., & Huang, C. M. (2002). Exploring students' cognitive structures in learning science: a review of relevant methods. <i>Journal of biological Education</i>, 36(4), 163-169.</p> <p>Furtak, E. M., & Ruiz - Primo, M. A. (2008). Making students' thinking explicit in writing and discussion: An analysis of formative assessment prompts. <i>Science Education</i>, 92(5), 799-824.</p> |
| Evidence of student understanding | Range and extent of student understanding is made explicit to teacher and student. | <p>Ruiz-Primo, M. A., & Furtak, E. M. (2007). Exploring teachers' informal formative assessment practices and students' understanding in the context of scientific inquiry. <i>Journal of research in science teaching</i>, 44(1), 57-84.</p> <p>Offerdahl, E. G., & Montplaisir, L. (2014). Studentgenerated reading questions: Diagnosing student thinking with diverse formative assessments. <i>Biochemistry and</i></p> |

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| | | <i>Molecular Biology Education</i> , 42(1), 29-38. |
| Feedback | A comparison of the learner's current state with the criteria for success is used to generate timely, relevant, and actionable feedback. | Kluger, A. N., & DeNisi, A. (1996). The effects of feedback interventions on performance: A historical review, a meta-analysis, and a preliminary feedback intervention theory. <i>Psychological bulletin</i> , 119(2), 254. Hattie, J., & Timperley, H. (2007). The power of feedback. <i>Review of educational research</i> , 77(1), 81-112. |
| Skills for self-regulated learning | Students know how to identify personal strengths/weaknesses relevant to instructional task, and create and monitor a plan for completing a learning task. | Zimmerman, B. J., & Schunk, D. H. (Eds.). (2012). <i>Self-regulated learning and academic achievement: Theory, research, and practice</i> . Springer Science & Business Media. Hudesman, J., Crosby, S., Flugman, B., Issac, S., Everson, H., & Clay, D. B. (2013). Using formative assessment and metacognition to improve student achievement. <i>Journal of Developmental Education</i> , 37(1), 2. |
| Personal pedagogical content knowledge (PCK) | Instructors possess discipline-specific and pedagogical knowledge for designing and reflecting on instruction of particular topics. | Tomanek, D., Talanquer, V., & Novodvorsky, I. (2008). What do science teachers consider when selecting formative assessment tasks?. <i>Journal of Research in Science Teaching</i> , 45(10), 1113-1130. Gess-Newsome, J. (2015). A model of teacher professional knowledge and skill including PCK: Results of the thinking from the PCK Summit. In <i>Re-examining pedagogical content knowledge in science education</i> (pp. 38-52). Routledge. Haug, B. S., & Ødegaard, M. (2015). Formative assessment and teachers' sensitivity to student responses. <i>International Journal of Science Education</i> , 37(4), 629-654. Auerbach, A. J., Higgins, M., Brickman, P., & Andrews, T. C. (2018). Teacher Knowledge for Active-Learning Instruction: Expert–Novice Comparison Reveals Differences. <i>CBE-Life Sciences Education</i> , 17(1), ar12. |

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| Prior Knowledge | Students' prior knowledge is activated and interacts with how they learn information. | <p>Heit, E. (1994). Models of the effects of prior knowledge on category learning. <i>Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition</i>, 20(6), 1264.</p> <p>National Research Council. (2000). <i>How people learn: Brain, mind, experience, and school: Expanded edition</i>. National Academies Press.</p> <p>Shapiro, A. M. (2004). How including prior knowledge as a subject variable may change outcomes of learning research. <i>American Educational Research Journal</i>, 41(1), 159-189.</p> |
| Reveal student understanding | The student(s) willingly respond to the formative assessment prompt appropriately. | <p>Turner, G., & Gibbs, G. (2010). Are assessment environments gendered? An analysis of the learning responses of male and female students to different assessment environments. <i>Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education</i>, 35, 687–698.</p> <p>Havnes, A., Smith, K., Dysthe, O., & Ludvigsen, K. (2012). Formative assessment and feedback: Making learning visible. <i>Studies in Educational Evaluation</i>, 38(1), 21-27.</p> <p>Winstone, N. E., Nash, R. A., Parker, M., & Rowntree, J. (2017). Supporting learners' agentic engagement with feedback: a systematic review and a taxonomy of recipience processes. <i>Educational Psychologist</i>, 52(1), 17-37.</p> |
| Personal pedagogical knowledge and skills (PCK&S) | The instructor uses particular discipline-specific knowledge and pedagogical skills to diagnose learning of a particular topic and provide feedback in a particular way to particular students. | <p>Levin, D. M., Hammer, D., & Coffey, J. E. (2009). Novice teachers' attention to student thinking. <i>Journal of Teacher Education</i>, 60(2), 142-154.</p> <p>Talanquer, V., Tomanek, D., & Novodvorsky, I. (2013). Assessing students' understanding of inquiry: What do prospective science teachers notice?. <i>Journal of Research in Science Teaching</i>, 50(2), 189-208.</p> <p>Gess-Newsome, J. (2015). A model of teacher</p> |

professional knowledge and skill including PCK: Results of the thinking from the PCK Summit. In *Re-examining pedagogical content knowledge in science education* (pp. 38-52). Routledge.

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| Diagnosis of in-progress learning | The instructor and/or student uses FA prompt and learning outcome to diagnose learner's current state. | <p>Bischoff, P. J. (2006). The role of knowledge structures in the ability of preservice elementary teachers to diagnose a child's understanding of molecular kinetics. <i>Science Education</i>, 90(5), 936-951.</p> <p>Talanquer, V., Tomanek, D., & Novodvorsky, I. (2013). Assessing students' understanding of inquiry: What do prospective science teachers notice?. <i>Journal of Research in Science Teaching</i>, 50(2), 189-208.</p> |
| Generate feedback | The instructor and/or student generate(s) feedback about learner's current state. | <p>Bing-You, R. G., Paterson, J., & Levine, M. A. (1997). Feedback falling on deaf ears: Residents' receptivity to feedback tempered by sender credibility. <i>Medical Teacher</i>, 19, 40-44.</p> <p>Nicol, D., Thomson, A., & Breslin, C. (2014). Rethinking feedback practices in higher education: a peer review perspective. <i>Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education</i>, 39(1), 102-122.</p> |
| Recognize and respond to feedback | The student recognizes and acts on feedback to shape learning | <p>Price, M., Handley, K., & Millar, J. (2011). Feedback: Focusing attention on engagement. <i>Studies in Higher Education</i>, 36(8), 879-896.</p> <p>Orsmond, P., & Merry, S. (2013). The importance of self-assessment in students' use of tutors' feedback: A qualitative study of high and non-high achieving biology undergraduates. <i>Assessment & Evaluation in Higher Education</i>, 38(6), 737-753.</p> <p>Ludvigsen, K., Krumsvik, R., & Furnes, B. (2015). Creating formative feedback spaces in large lectures. <i>Computers & Education</i>, 88, 48-63.</p> |