

Kathleen Klosterman
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Sound Connections
Chapter 9: Assessing Literacy Skills
Don Ester
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Summary

-Assessment is an integral part of the teaching and learning process

-The instruction cycle contains three steps

1. Presentation of task

2. Student response

3. Specific feedback

I. Definition, Purposes, and Characteristics of Effective Assessment

A. Measurements, evaluation, and assessment

B. Two primary purposes of assessment: formative and summative assessment

II. Methods of Assessment

A. Daily Assessments

1. Neutral echoing, syllable echoing, echo-translating, notating, and writing

2. Daily skill check sheet

3. Allows for the assessment of each individual student on a daily basis by having them do simple exercises

B. Cumulative Assessments

1. Skill Summary Reports

2. Skill Tests

3. Course Grades

Discussion

This chapter was full of ways to assess students in a music classroom. It gave definitions, purposes and characteristics of effective assessments of students and their abilities, and gave a variety of methods that can be used to assess them. It also gave specific tests like the skills test, daily skill check sheet, and skill summary report that teachers can use as methods of assessment in their classroom. All of these sheets are tools that will aid teachers in achieving the most effective measurement of assessment. Assessment is a vital part of a classroom, so the teacher knows where the students stand in the development of music literacy skills. There are two basic forms of assessment. The first is formative, where the teacher more observes exactly how a student is doing, but not giving them a grade with it. The other form is summative, which is an actual grade given based on a performance, test, or other evaluation. Both of these forms of assessment are required in a classroom to know how effective instruction is, and how well the students are retaining the information. Students benefit a great deal from participating in the assessment themselves, knowing how to help themselves get

better at what they are studying, and therefore encouraging practicing. I will incorporate these methods of assessment in my classroom to ensure that the students are getting the most out of instruction, and are learning at their fullest ability. By implementing the instruction cycle, I know that students will be given never-ending instruction and feedback to help them to become independent musicians.