Sample Activities

Using authentic assessment in your classroom

Short Investigations

You can use short investigations to assess how well students have mastered basic concepts and skills.

Most short investigations begin with a stimulus, like a math problem, political cartoon, map, or excerpt from a primary source.

You may ask students to interpret, describe, calculate, explain, or predict.

These investigations may use concept mapping, a technique that assesses how well students understand relationships among concepts.

Portfolios

A portfolio documents learning over time. This long-term perspective accounts for student improvement and teaches students the value of self-assessment, editing, and revision. A student portfolio can include:

- journal entries and reflective writing
- peer reviews
- artwork, diagrams, charts, and graphs
- group reports
- student notes and outlines
- rough drafts and polished writing

-Adapted from www.teachervision.com