

Chapter 5

Objectives



- Define performance assessment, and discuss the rationale for its use
- Give examples of models and methods that fit into a performance-based assessment framework
- Identify considerations and guidelines for implementing performance assessment

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Characteristics of Performance Assessment



- It gives children the opportunity to demonstrate and apply their knowledge.
- It uses a broad variety of methods and products including:
 - Traditional observation techniques
 - Anecdotal records
 - Videotaping and audiotaping
 - Photographs
 - Transcriptions of children's comments and discussions
 - Actual work samples done by children in various media
- It allows recording of highly complex behaviors that are visual, musical, or kinesthetic.
- It provides information on children's strategies and processes and, therefore, captures qualitative metacognitive and motivational processes.
- It allows for accommodations and adaptations when assessing children who use assistive technology or augmentative and alternative communication (AAC) systems.
- It is conducive to involving families, as it is easier to document what children do in real-life settings such as the home.

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Performance Assessment Scoring Options



1. Acquisition of skills according to weekly individualized education programs (IEP) probes
2. Application of skills in real-life situations
3. Use of strategies to acquire skills

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Advantages and Limitations of Performance Assessment



Advantages

- Focus on strengths
- Meaningful context
- Collaboration and communication
- Nonintrusive data collection

Limitations

- Lack of standards
- High level of expertise required
- Required planning time and resources