Active Insight: Evidence in Action

Tip #280

On-the-Go Assessment

Overview

Assessment can occur throughout Physical Education lessons as students **demonstrate skills, apply strategies and respond to movement challenges. Observations, questioning, discussions and simple recording tools** can provide valuable information about student learning. Assessing during activities allows teachers to **identify strengths, misconceptions and areas requiring further practice.** Information gathered during lessons can be used to **adjust activities, provide feedback and plan future learning.**

Key Teaching Ideas

Identify **what learning will be observed before the lesson begins** and determine **how evidence will be collected.** Focus observations on **specific skills, concepts, strategies or learning intentions** rather than trying to assess everything at once. Use **questioning to check understanding** and prompt students to explain decisions or movement choices. Consider how assessment information will be **recorded and used to guide feedback, lesson adjustments and future planning.**

Practical Application

- **Use a class checklist.** Eg: Record observations against a small number of focus points while students are participating in activities.
- **Assess one group at a time.** Eg: Observe a specific group while the remainder of the class continues practising independently.
- **Use questioning during activities.** Eg: Ask students to explain decisions, strategies or movement choices while learning is occurring.
- **Collect evidence through demonstrations.** Eg: Observe students applying skills or strategies during games, challenges or practice tasks.
- **Record observations immediately.** Eg: Use a clipboard, tablet or assessment app to capture notes during the lesson.

Next Steps

Use simple tools to support efficient assessment. Ultimate PE resources provide practical strategies for authentic, ongoing assessment within active lessons.

© Active Education Australia 2026