

## **Evaluation Strategy**

When teaching units, or subunits, there are many types of evaluation strategies that educators should use to inform planning and instruction. During the course of this unit, the subunits will begin with a pre-assessment. A pre-assessment is important because it will inform planning and instruction so that it is appropriate for the students' needs. There will be whole and small group instruction throughout each of the subunits. The pre-assessment will allow the teacher to generalize which lessons (or mini-lessons) to teach in a whole group setting. This will be beneficial in creating differentiated small groups for guided reading as well. Within the small groups, enrichment, reinforcement and practice of the skills will be assigned as appropriate for that group based on the pre-assessment data.

Throughout all subunits there will be numerous opportunities for utilizing formative assessments to guide instruction. Since students learn at different rates the formative assessments will be critical to adjusting students in the small groups and the content worked on in the groups. Every lesson will have some type of formative assessment including: exit tickets, group and independent work, homework, observation and running records. While instructing whole group quick checks with dry erase board answers or "thumbs up or thumbs down" will be used as well. The formative assessments will vary due because not all students learn the same way. A student might be successful from observation, but when given group work may not fare so well.

At the end of each subunit will be a summative assessment. Summative assessments are important because they can show whether a student mastered a concept or not. Educators can use the summative assessment data to reteach the concepts to students that may need it.

Summative assessments (also the post-assessment) can also inform a teacher if the instructional practices used were effective or if they need to be changed. Just like formative assessments, there are many different forms of summative assessments. Summative assessments that will be used in this unit, and subunits, include: tests, projects, and reports. The summative assessment can be the same as the pre-assessment in order to accurately compare the growth of students. The summative assessment can also be entirely different from the pre-assessment as long as it is assessing the same concepts in order to inform the educator of the successes of the students.

Using formative and summative assessments in the beginning, middle and end of the units and subunits is crucial for instruction and student success. In order to be an effective educator one must make informed instructional decisions.