

What is the Difference Between Assessment and Evaluation?

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Abstract

In educational contexts, the terms "assessment" and "evaluation" are frequently conflated, despite representing distinct concepts with unique purposes, processes, and outcomes. This abstract elucidates the critical importance of differentiating between the two for educators, administrators, and students. Misunderstanding these distinctions can result in flawed scoring, inaccurate judgments, and invalid grading. Assessment, characterized by its dynamic nature, provides continuous feedback aimed at improving teaching and learning. Conversely, evaluation is static, summarizing educational effectiveness and outcomes at specific points in time. Recognizing these differences is essential for accurate and meaningful educational measurement and decision-making. This paper explores the fundamental disparities between assessment and evaluation.

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