

# Assessing Projects: Encouraging Self-Direction and Collaboration Methods to Foster Reflection

## Different Ways to Encourage Self-Reflection

### Closing Circle

At the end of the day or class, ask each student to share one thing they now know about a topic or a connection that they made. Make notes of responses requiring a follow-up discussion.

### Exit Slips

Pose questions at the end of class and ask students to write a response in order to exit the class. Read the responses and plan necessary instruction.

### Write a Letter

Students write a letter to themselves, another class, or to the subject they are studying. This helps students to think of connections in a very personal way. Use the reflections to assess understanding.

### Reflective Journals

Students reflect on their own learning. Either provide guiding, reflective questions for the students to respond to or they can be left open-ended. Below are reflective question examples:

- I work best when....
- I do my best on activities that...
- I like to work with others when...
- The thing I like best about this is.....
- The most interesting part of this project is...
- I would like to learn more about...
- I wish I could improve on...
- I need to work on...
- The hardest thing for me to do is...
- I need help with...
- When I don't understand something, I...
- Before I start to work on a project, I...
- When I need to study, I...
- When I want to remember something, I...
- I learned that I could...
- I am good at...
- I have learned how to...
- I can help others with...
- I want to work on...
- I want to learn how to...
- I plan to get help with...
- I am going to take responsibility for...