Assessing general capabilities

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Abstract

There is growing interest in general capabilities and cross-curricular learning outcomes such as literacy in information and communication technologies, creative thinking and collaborative and individual problem-solving. As the expectation for such competencies to be taught in schools has increased, so has the need for teachers and schools to validly and reliably assess student learning in those areas, and to report on them in ways that inform future teaching and learning. In this presentation we examine the challenges of assessing and reporting on student learning and learning growth in general capabilities and cross-curricular learning areas. We present approaches used in research to address some of these challenges and reflect on how these can be applied in the classroom.