

# Grading Smarter Not Harder: Assessment Strategies That Motivate Kids and Help Them Learn

Myron Dueck

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**Focus Area:** Professional Development, Assessment, Differentiated Learning

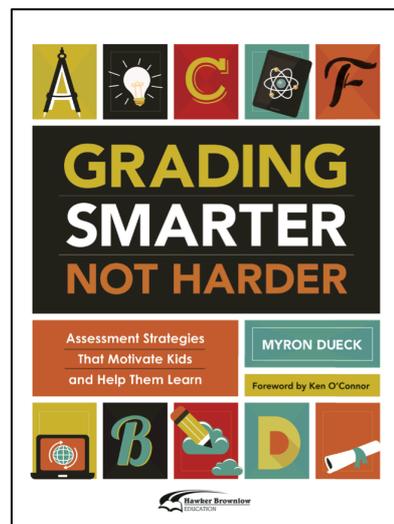
## Key Learning

**Area:** Cross-Curricular

## Supplemental

## Resource:

Download reproducible resources at [go.hbe.com.au](http://go.hbe.com.au)



## Summary

All the talk of closing the achievement gap in schools obscures a more fundamental issue: do the grades we assign to students truly reflect the extent of their learning? In this lively and eye-opening book, educator Myron Dueck reveals how many of the assessment policies that teachers adopt can actually prove detrimental to student motivation and achievement and shows how we can tailor policies to address what really matters: student understanding of content. In sharing lessons, anecdotes, and cautionary tales from his own experiences revamping assessment procedures in the classroom, Dueck offers a variety of practical strategies for

- Ensuring that grades measure what students know without punishing them for factors outside their control.
- Critically examining the fairness and effectiveness of grading homework assignments.
- Designing and distributing unit plans that make assessment criteria crystal-clear to students.
- Creating a flexible and modular retesting system so that students can improve their scores on individual sections of important tests.

*Grading Smarter, Not Harder* is brimming with reproducible forms, templates and real-life examples of grading solutions developed to allow students every opportunity to demonstrate their learning. Written with abundant humor and heart, this book is a must-read for all teachers who want their grades to contribute to, rather than hinder, their students' success.

## Supporting Resources:

- *Formative Assessment & Standards-Based Grading: The Classroom Strategies Series* (MRL4916)
- *Differentiated Assessment Strategies: One Tool Doesn't Fit All* (CO4476)
- *Making Classroom Assessment Work, 3rd Edition* (SOT1762)
- *Tools for Thoughtful Assessment* (TC0602)
- *Assessment and Student Success in a Differentiated Classroom* (108028)
- *A School Leaders Guide to Standards-Based Grading* (MRL2861)