

Proximity of Evidence to Student Thinking



Types of Evidence

Student writing,
Student work,
Student talk

Grades,
walk-through
observations

SBAC scores,
Benchmark scores,
Graduation rates,
Attendance rates,
Suspension rates

Who it is useful for

Teachers,
Coaches,
Students

Principals,
Coaches,
Families

District Admins,
State Admins,
Politicians,
Larger community

What it is useful for

Assessing what
students know and
think in order to
inform immediate
next instructional
moves

Decisions about PD,
use of common
planning time,
curriculum choices,
personnel decisions,
budgeting

Uncovering and
analyzing trends and
patterns across
large systems to
inform policy and
budgeting decisions

Limitations

The pressure of
moment-to-moment
work

Observations
require some
training for focusing
on what matters

Little info on why
students think what
they think and it is
too late to act upon