★ Enhance Capacity for Monitoring Progress

Day 275

Capture It

Video recording is an effective and efficient way to capture learning over time. Recording can be used to track student progress, or illustrate mastery of a skill or learning standard for families, other teachers, or for students themselves. Video may be especially helpful for students who have complex support needs and may, therefore, demonstrate progress at a slower rate than their peers.

For example, a student with multiple disabilities participating in a kindergarten morning meeting may show very little evidence of participation in the first few weeks of school. Gradually, they may be able to show evidence of engagement (e.g., looking at the teacher). Eventually, they may be able to raise a hand, vocalize during a song, or answer a question using sign language. It might be hard to appreciate this learner's impressive progress if only traditional kindergarten assessment tools (e.g., observation, work samples) are used, but anyone watching regularly captured video clips would likely notice the child's growing ability.

Determine how you might use video assessment. Consider using this tool to evaluate:

- *study habits (e.g., working independently);*
- *social skills (e.g., taking turns);*
- *group work (e.g., sharing materials);*
- *literacy (e.g., reading fluently);*
- *communication (e.g., staying on topic);*
- *presentations (e.g., using appropriate voice volume);*
- *new skills (e.g., lining up);*
- *physical education (e.g., using equipment properly); and*
- *music (e.g., performing a piece of music).*

Once you become familiar with video as an assessment tool, you can teach it to students so they can evaluate their own progress on key skills and competencies throughout the year.