Using formative assessment rubrics in Drama

Transcript

(GENTLE MUSIC PLAYS)

In 2019 the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority partnered with the Assessment Research Centre at the University of Melbourne to provide professional learning for teachers to strengthen their understanding and use formative assessment rubrics.

**Why use formative assessment rubrics?**

Being in a practical subject, probably those teachers are using formative assessment all the time because children or students are rehearsing and they're going in saying, "Well, how about you try this, or could you do this differently?"

So this process of what we're doing is just formalising something that Performing Arts teachers have probably been doing for a long time.

It's really nice seeing how...

Collaboration between students...

Yeah. It encourages them to collaborate. And also you can you can really clearly see that they understand. OK. So I want to be the best I can in this class. Then this is what I need to do because it says so here.

**What were some considerations when writing or using the rubrics?**

When they've had the rubric in front of them and they've had to do a marking session on one of their peers, one of the things that I look for is the dramatic element of climax and are they able to develop something which a climactic moment which is engaging. Then I went back and looked at all of the student feedback from that session and a lot of them because it was in the rubric, a lot of them said, "I didn't really get a sense that this moment was particularly climactic for your character. So you might need to build the action a little bit more."

So it really did become much more targeted to that specific idea and there were a few other skills which were the same, but that was the one that stood out. You don't have to change every piece of assessment that you've got all at once. You can just take one task, try something different. Download the one off the VCAA website and then apply that in your own classroom, which is a really nice way to measure student growth and find out exactly what the impact of your teaching has been. If you think that it's valuable, then you can look to implement it in other ways.

**How does formative assessment impact student learning?**

They're able to understand exactly what is expected of them at different levels. And it doesn't necessarily matter what level they're at. It's just about trying to improve their own performance, I suppose, and it puts the focus back on them.