

# Portfolio - a means of developing the child's personality, assessment and self-assessment

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# Basic questions

- What do you understand by the term portfolio?
- What are your experiences with portfolios?
- Why should students create a portfolio?



- A portfolio is a structured **set of a student's work** during a certain period, which provides information on the pupil's school results, his/her **learning** and **development**.
- 1995 – it appeared for the first time in a pedagogical thesaurus: A collection of records about a person (his/her characteristics and performance), which is based on an evaluation he or she performs.
- It is intended for: students, teachers and parents

## What is the purpose of it?

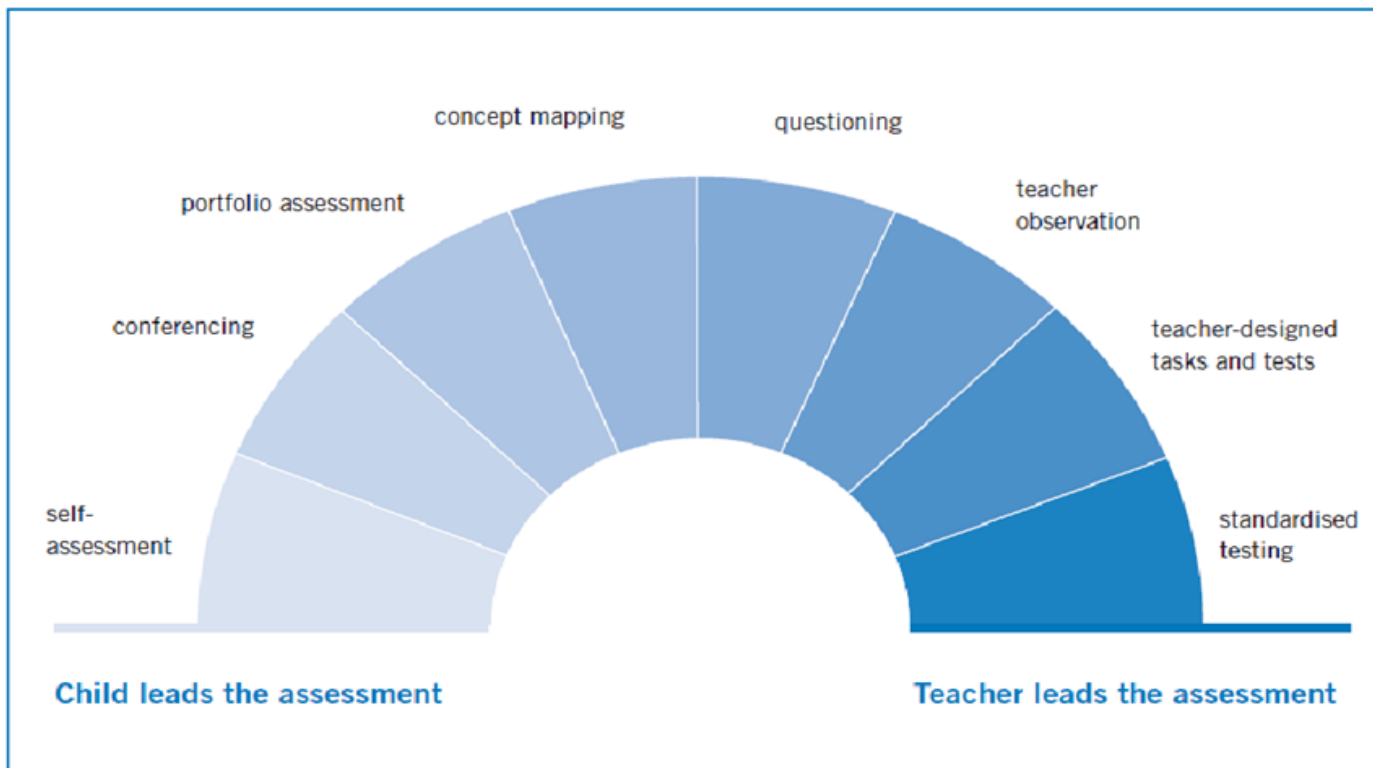
- A pupil's results
- The learning process
- A pupil's progress



personality development  
in the cognitive, social, emotional,  
biological, spiritual areas as well as the self

# One of the tools of pedagogical diagnosis

Figure 2: A continuum of assessment methods



The discussion of assessment methods in this section follows the order shown in Figure 2. Each method is presented as a fold-out from the main document.

# Functions

- ***informative***
- ***motivational***
- ***communicative***
- ***Self-regulative***
- ***diagnostic***

# Types

- **Collection** (Documentational)  
– a collection of all a student's work
- **Selection, representative**  
the best work, a presentation of the child
- **Evaluative, diagnostic documents the child's progress**, teacher's records of observations, regular comments from the teacher records the child's self-esteem, reports from parents ...

# Persons influencing the form of portfolio

- The pupil: creation is entirely in the hands of the pupil,
- The teacher
- The pupil and teacher: They both work together on the form of the portfolio
- The pupil, teacher and pupil: They all work together on the form of the portfolio

## □ Front page



## □ Method of storing records

1) Based on aims (skills) which are being observed

2) Based on themes, subjects


3) Chronologically

□ Repeating?  
Development (with dates)

□ Non-repeating?



# Basis for the structure of the portfolio

- Knowledge of skills, aims and outcomes 
- Content of the portfolio

Expected outcomes	Parts of the portfolio
<p>The pupil:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Understands how language is used in everyday situations in the class</li><li>· Experiments with spoken language in groups, in the class, individually, acts out a role</li><li>· Communicates with the teacher, with classmates and with familiar adults</li><li>· Listens to stories read aloud and individually reads various types of texts, e.g. stories, picture books, poems, song lyrics and other texts</li><li>· Works with rhyme and rhythm, repeats them</li><li>· Develops their own reading habits</li><li>· Creates their own texts using their own experience, texts they have read and heard and visual perceptions</li><li>· Understands the structure of texts (including notes, lists and symbols)</li><li>· Uses written text in order to share information</li></ul>	<p>The teacher's non-official notes on the behaviour of the pupil in the class in various situations</p> <p>Audio/video recordings documenting how the pupil copes in situations requiring him/her to listen and answer</p> <p>Records about the pupil's reading</p> <p>Audio/video recordings from discussions about reading</p> <p>Pupil's written work</p> <p>Regular notes about the errors made by pupils, including photocopies of texts which serve to look at their reading strategies</p>

# Possible content

- Life story – who am I?
- weekly plans, agreements, class rules
- written assignments and tests
- evaluative and self-assessment questionnaires (for individual and group evaluation)
- School report
- materials showing the process of learning (concepts, sketches, comments, etc..)
- reflective journals describing the conditions and feelings in learning
- extracurricular activities
- evaluation of student performance by the teacher
- teacher records from regular observation of the pupil
- records of classmates from observation of and co-operation with the pupil
- Parents' records
- homework

## **Working with a portfolio: The pupil**

Regularly planned reflection

- 1) When choosing which work to put into the portfolio and conversations
- When self-evaluating,
    - for experiencing and remembering life at primary school.
    - 2) Unintentional reflection at a particular time.

## **Working with a portfolio:**

### **The teacher**

- Evaluation of results, progress, how the learning is going.
- Time for a "private" conversation with the student, uncovering implicit phenomena.
- Lesson planning
- Individualisation and differentiation.

## Working with a portfolio:

### The parent

- evaluation of the work of the child – verbally and in writing
- shares in the selection of work to go into the portfolio
- communication with the teacher on the child's results
- communication with the child about his/her results: unofficial, official – consultation days.

### Its importance for parents

- monitor the development of the child and his/her progress,
- To understand the organization in primary schools,
- To understand a teacher's teaching style
- It is an opportunity for communication between parents, teachers and pupils

# Benefits of introducing portfolios

## **Advantages :**

- Lays the foundation for self-evaluation and self-reflection
- Supports the involvement of children in planning other activities
- Allows for a comprehensive and long-term assessment of children's results, and to follow their progress.
- It combines formative and summative aspects of evaluation
- It helps teachers, children and parents to get a picture of the child's self-efficacy
- It increases the involvement of all participants in the educational process

# Disadvantages of introducing a portfolio

## Disadvantages

- It requires some time to create the intended content, selection of work, continuous and summarizing reflection
- It consists mainly of worksheets, in which the pivotal domain of the cognitive development of the student is documented
- Too wide or overly narrow range of material – core skills, objectives and outcomes not covered - unsystematic, underdeveloped system of evaluation
- Parents are sometimes not interested.
- Managing portfolios requires funding

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