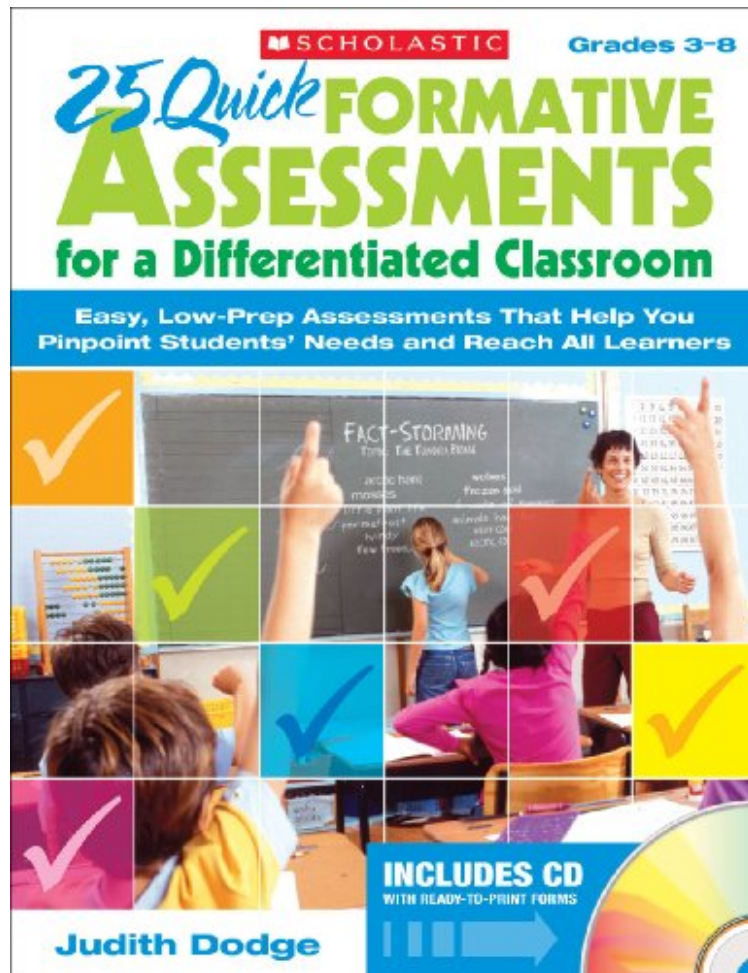


## 25 Quick Formative Assessments for a Differentiated Classroom

Judith Dodge

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**Judith Dodge : 25 Quick Formative Assessments for a Differentiated Classroom** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised 25 Quick Formative Assessments for a Differentiated Classroom:

59 of 59 people found the following review helpful. Excellent  
By Dani Arteri  
This book is simply marvelous. If you are interested in assessing your students in a variety of ways- whether or not you consider your classroom "differentiated"- this book is for you. Why this book is such a great resource:1) The assessments are easy to understand and implement. If you don't have the time to modify them to your needs, you can copy the corresponding pages directly out of the book or off the CD to hand out to your students.2) The assessments can easily be adapted to any content area and any grade level. The book says it's for 3-8, but many can be used as-is or with slight modifications for high school.3)The information is split into four sections, which each section focusing on a specific type of learner- audio, visual, etc. You could either rotate through the types of assessments to help students find their strengths and build their weaknesses, or you could use them to provide students with options when it comes to homework ideas.4) If you use tiering in your

classroom, many of the assessments provide tips for modifying them with more support (for struggling learners) or making them more challenging (for more advanced learners).<sup>5</sup> Many of the assessments also have easy and practical tips for tying technology into them. This book is so user-friendly, to the point, helpful, and best of all, inexpensive. I would highly, highly recommend it! 18 of 18 people found the following review helpful. 25 Quick Formative Assessments Textbook By Tabitha I ordered the Scholastic book, 25 Quick Formative Assessments for a Differentiated Classroom to use with my middle school geography students. The book is for grades 3-8. This assessment/teacher idea book is excellent. It is easy to follow and very simple to implement. As soon as I rec'd it, I put several of the formative assessment tools to work in my sixth grade geography classes. I especially like the cooperative group activities. They have a real-world component that gives students an opportunity to work in collaborative groups. The activities have a critical thinking component built into them. The title is absolutely correct. This is an easy and very low-prep assessment tool. The activities are so low prep, you can even use them in your Sub emergency plans. You don't necessarily have to use them for assessment. They are excellent for integration into regular daily activities. However, when using for Subs, be sure to hold students accountable for their work as they will be working in cooperative groups. This will reduce socializing when a Sub is present. The activities are creative, and they can be adjusted for use with several grade levels. The activities are also flexible, and can be used with a significant number of concepts. The activities can be modified for use with gifted students, exceptional education students, and regular education students. I divided students into groups of 3 or 4, distributed a class set copy of the handout 'Headline News! Summary (p. 82-85), distributed a class set copy of a current geography based news article (weather disaster in Japan, Haiti, and Northern U.S., etc.), assigned students a group number, and assigned students to a section of the classroom. I modeled and used direct instruction. I taped large chart paper on the walls around the classroom, and each group had to create the form on the chart paper, fill in the form, and illustrate. This activity assessed their ability to follow directions, determine the main idea, seek out facts, use critical thinking skills, plan, collaborate, question, predict, summarize, read in the content area, and use technology. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. I thought this would help me but it isn't for ... By Cha'kwain I thought this would help me but it isn't for high school teachers. It doesn't teach the higher level thinking skills for high school. I need to look for one of those or uses these as a guide. Today, the buzz is about assessing high level Bloom's. this doesn't do that!

This collection of quick, flexible, informal assessments helps teachers take a snapshot of student learning—; at any time during a lesson or unit of study, in any curriculum area. Students' responses give teachers a clear picture of what students know and what they need help with, what material to reteach or extend, and how to pace instruction. Designed to engage a range of learning styles and skills, the assessments come with an easy step-by-step plan, grade-level modifications, tiering tips, and student samples!

About the Author Judith Dodge, an expert on differentiating instruction, is a frequently sought-after presenter and staff developer for school districts, colleges, and professional organizations. She is the author of *The Study Skills Handbook* and *Differentiation in Action*, both published by Scholastic.