NOTES ON ASSESSMENT

The modern approach to assessment is that teachers should base the comments about student behavior on data and observation.

Assessment is the process of gathering information about students.

Evaluation is the process of determining the worth, or value, of student information that has been gathered during assessment.

You should assess (have knowledge of) each student's ability to identify mathematical objects and to apply mathematical ideas. One assessment technique is to have a check list of objects and ideas for each student. When you observe a student using an object or idea (in a mathematical way), put a check mark on the list.

Mathematical objects include:

whole numbers
place value notation
standard and non-standard measurement units
two and three dimensional shapes
graphs and data displays

Mathematical ideas include:

one-to-one correspondence
counting
comparison (large/small, near/far, etc.)
measurement
pattern and symmetry
chance

A student can demonstrate comprehension and understanding of objects and ideas by:

talking about them
providing examples
using models, diagrams, and symbols
translating form one representation to another
identifying properties
comparing and contrasting

Another good idea for assessment is to make **student portfolios,** collections of the work/play that they do. Photo documentation is a readily available option.