

Get the latest book in the award-winning *Tools* series!

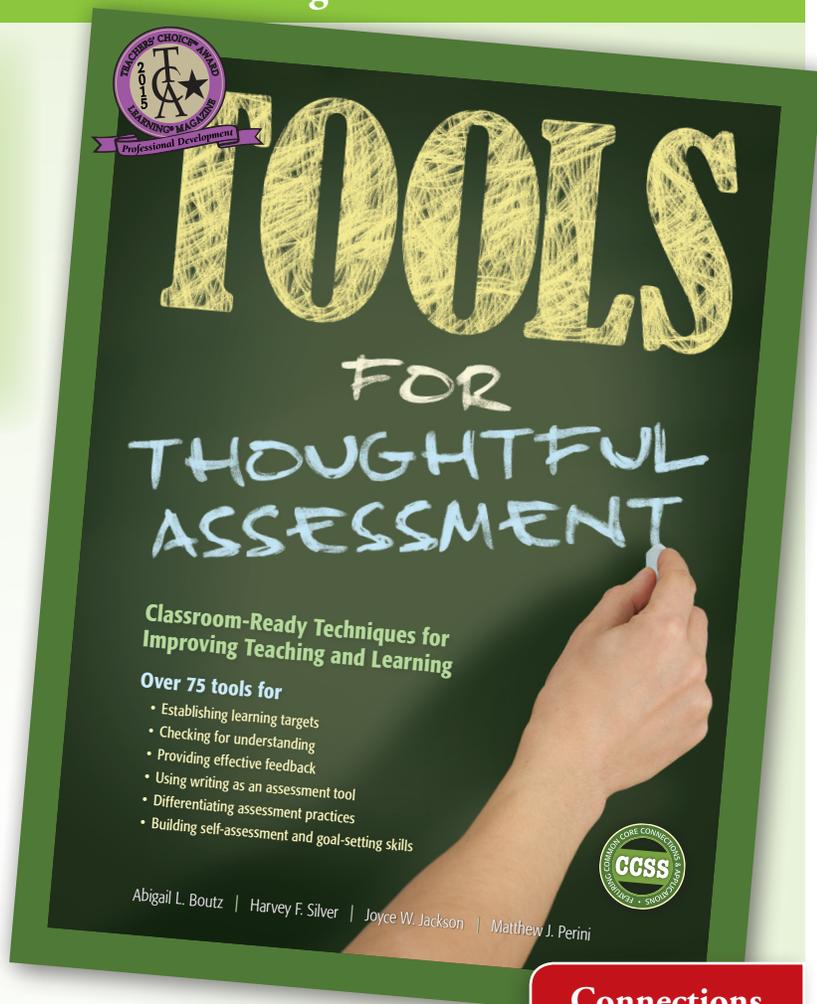
“A thorough, well-researched, clearly written, and eminently practical toolkit. The use of these proven, teacher-friendly tools will unquestionably engage learners while enhancing the quality of classroom assessment practices.”

—Jay McTighe
co-author of the *Understanding by Design* series

Today’s educators know that assessment means more than assigning and grading student work. They know assessment is an ongoing process that involves regularly gathering information about student learning, using that information to make better instructional decisions, and helping students take responsibility for their own learning. To do this work thoughtfully, teachers need a collection of effective assessment techniques that will integrate seamlessly into their everyday classroom practice.

Tools for Thoughtful Assessment is that collection. It contains over seventy-five easy-to-use tools that help teachers respond to twelve key assessment questions. Each question is addressed by a different chapter in the book:

- Chapter 1:** How will I identify and communicate learning goals to students?
- Chapter 2:** How will I use pre-assessments to inform and enhance instruction?
- Chapter 3:** How will I prepare students to produce high-quality work?
- Chapter 4:** How will I check for understanding *while* presenting new information?
- Chapter 5:** How will I check for understanding *after* presenting new information?
- Chapter 6:** How will I help students review, practice, and check their grasp of the material?
- Chapter 7:** How will I help students improve their work through feedback and self-assessment?
- Chapter 8:** How will I help students monitor their learning and establish goals and plans for moving forward?
- Chapter 9:** How will I use writing tasks to help students synthesize and show what they know?
- Chapter 10:** How will I develop high-quality culminating assessment tasks and evaluation frameworks?
- Chapter 11:** How will I differentiate assessment to promote success for all students?
- Chapter 12:** How will I help students reflect on, learn from, and celebrate their achievements?



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**Connections
to the
Common Core
highlighted
throughout
the book!**

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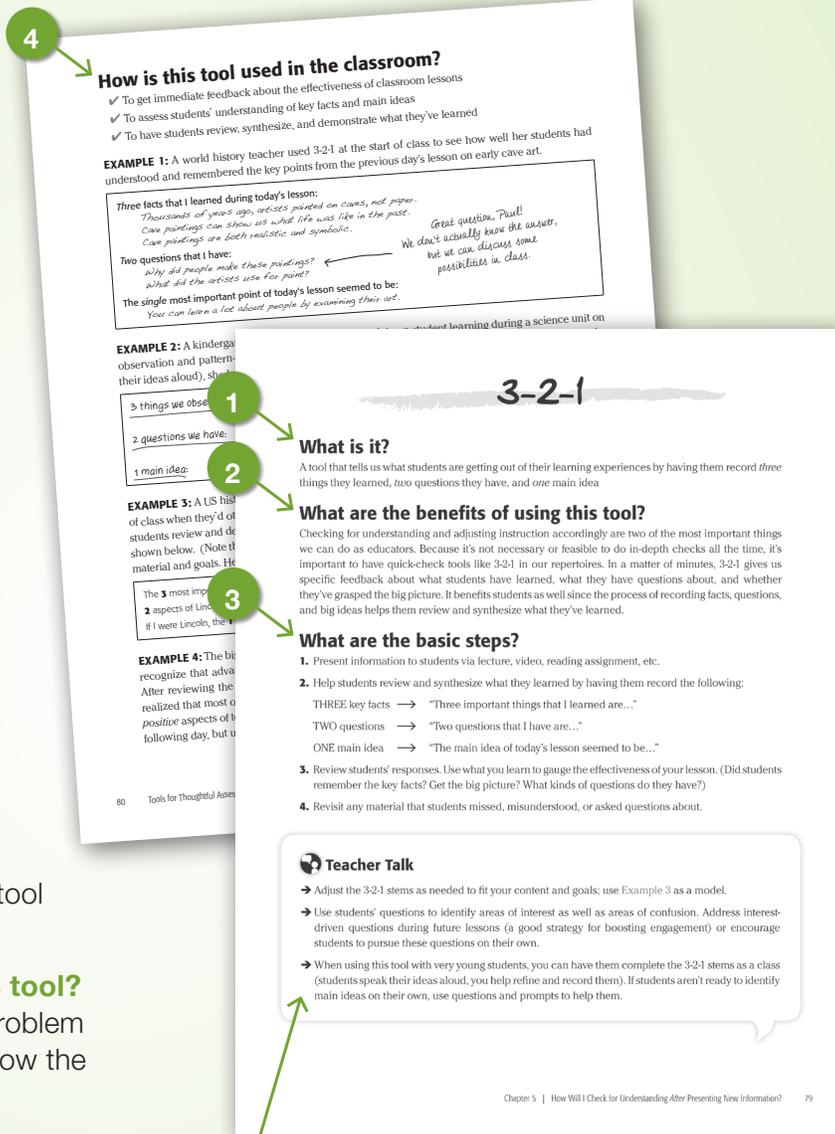
Why Tools?

Teachers today face more demands than ever before. In response, we've worked with thousands of educators from across the country to develop tools—ready-to-use instructional techniques that

- are designed to respond to the challenges classroom teachers face.
- can be used in all grade levels and content areas; classroom examples illustrate this diversity.
- are simple and teacher friendly. All tools include seven steps or fewer, and most require little or no advance planning.
- are informed by research on effective instruction and assessment.
- can be used during all stages of the instructional process, and for both formative and summative purposes. In addition, the organization of the book is designed to highlight the connection between instructional design and assessment design.

Every Tool Answers Four Questions

- 1. What is it?** A brief description of the tool and its purpose
- 2. What are the benefits of using this tool?** A one-paragraph explanation of the problem or challenge the tool addresses and how the tool enhances learning
- 3. What are the basic steps?** A step-by-step guide for putting the tool into practice
- 4. How is this tool used in the classroom?** A section that provides greater clarity on how the tool can be used and typically includes examples from different grade levels and content areas



Extras: In addition to the four critical questions, many tools include **Teacher Talk** (tips and suggestions for getting more out of the tool) and **reproducibles**. Copies of the reproducibles and other downloadable “extras” can be found at www.ThoughtfulClassroom.com/Tools.

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Tools workshops!

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