

Hands-on Report Card

Description

Although the usual printed or computerized report cards and student-led conferences are useful tools for communicating your progress, you can also demonstrate your learning through an active, hands-on activity. The hands-on report card process involves a group of students who invite their parents or guardians to the classroom on a given day. The report card demonstration requires about an hour divided into four 15-minute segments. During each 15-minute segment, you will actively demonstrate a skill that can involve a reading, writing, lab, math, or other experience, or some other relevant activity such as a computer lab application or a small-group project.

Planning

1. Your teacher will let you know the specific date, time, and place for the report card demonstrations. If you are part of a team with each person using a segment, determine what experiences or skills each person will demonstrate or display during each of the four segments.
2. Contribute to designing, constructing, and sending an invitation for the report card demonstration that explains the purpose of the visit and what your audience can expect to learn from it. If a parent or guardian cannot attend, invite another adult.
3. Make a list of all the materials you and the guests you are inviting will need and collect the materials. This includes everything from pencils and lab tools to reference books, worksheets, or recording sheets.
4. Create a simple blueprint for how you will use your allotted space during the event. How will your workspace be organized, and where will your guests be seated to best observe your part of the demonstration?
5. Estimate your activity's length and try to keep it to approximately 15 minutes duration. Time your activity and make adjustments as needed.
6. Prepare a set of questions for your guests so that after they answer them following your presentation, you will be able to tell what information they learned.

Assessing

1. Design a checklist for your activity; include all the details and actions that must be addressed before the event.
2. With input from your teacher, design a rubric that you, your guest(s), and your teacher can use to evaluate your presentation and your work.

Technology Connection

1. Create a continuous slideshow or PowerPoint that your guests can view as they wait for the event to begin. Include elements or background from each of the demonstrations they will see; if possible, find connections between the topics to help your audience think about them in new ways.
2. If you use technology for any part of your project, clearly explain how the technology impacted the task so that any audience members not familiar with that technology can picture how it worked.