



CREATING YOUR OWN **ASSESSMENT** **ITEMS** FOR FUN & **PROFIT** INFORMATION

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HELLO!

I am Andy Mitchell, PhD

I am here because I love to write great tests.

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The Freedom of a Playground Fence

[Lessons from the Playground](#)

This blog post describes a social experiment comparing kids' play on a playground with and without a fenced perimeter

Key Takeaway:
Clear boundaries can unleash creativity, not limit teacher freedom, by focusing on what's most important to teach and measure

Dr. Zachary Warner's Test-Writing Model

1. Identify the knowledge / skill from the PLD
2. Select a task model
3. Bring in unpacked info about subject-area concepts
4. Stir in your special touch
5. Write the question!

A large, bright yellow diagonal graphic that starts from the top right and extends towards the bottom left, creating a sharp triangular shape on the right side of the slide.

1.

**CREATE
ANCHOR
PAPERS**

Unfocused Thanksgiving Prompt

Break up each small group into three levels:

Excellent

Average

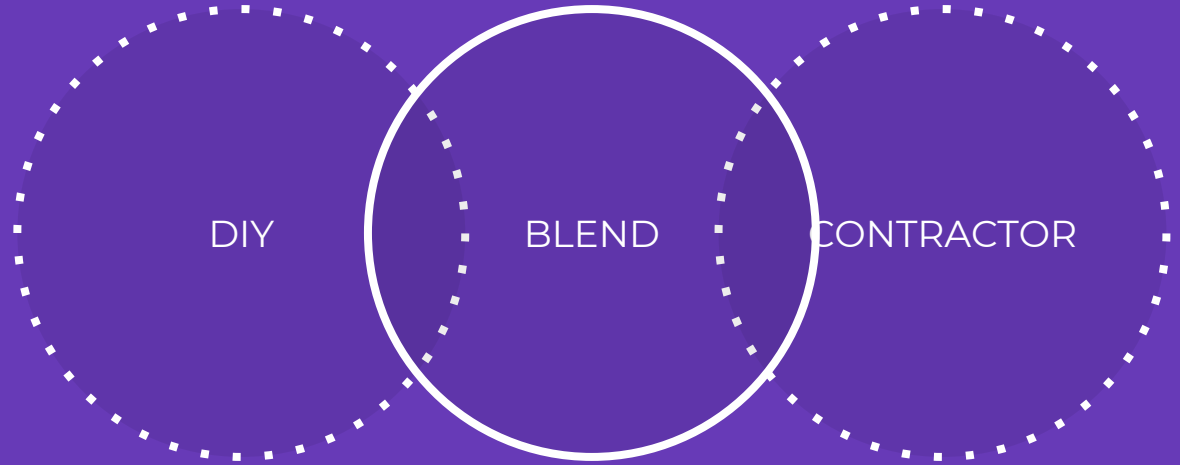
Poor

Respond to the prompt at the level of achievement you have selected

We will use these prompts as a tool to consider improved assessment and instruction



CONSIDER HOME REPAIR





CLASSROOM ASSESSMENT

What steps can we take to ensure and support excellent testing practices?



SAME **AND** DIFFERENT

Standardized Items



Locally-Created
Items



Unfocused Thanksgiving Prompt

What went well?

What could be improved?

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2.

**SORT ANCHOR
PAPERS**



**v.gd/
DATAGPLDs**



LET'S REVIEW AND APPLY **DR. TAYLOR'S** PLDs MODEL

- ▶ Performance Level Descriptors
 - ▷ [Grade 8 ELA PLD page 9](#)
- ▶ Take a subset of your Thanksgiving papers and rate them compared to the PLD document linked above
- ▶ Connecting a vague assignment to existing PLDs allows us to redeem a less-well structured learning activity or assessment and draw out important information for future instruction

3.

**REDEEM THE
THANKSGIVING
PROMPT**

**Pick a different
PLD and level**



LET'S REVIEW AND APPLY **DR. TAYLOR'S** PLDs MODEL

- ▶ Next, select another PLD (not Grade 8 ELA page 9)
- ▶ Revise the Thanksgiving prompt to measure the new PLD at either Level 3 or 4
- ▶ Discuss your revisions with another small group and compare your work



THANKS!

Any questions?

You can find me at andrew.mitchell@wflboces.org



CREDITS

Special thanks to all the people who made and released these awesome resources for free:

- ▶ Presentation template by [SlidesCarnival](#)
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Red #F44336

Deep orange #FF5722

Orange #FF9800

Amber #FFC107

Yellow #FFEB3B

Lime #CDDC39

Green #8BC34A

Dark green #4CAF50

Teal #009688

Cyan #00BCD4

Blue #03A9F4

Dark blue #2196F3

Indigo #3F51B5

Deep Purple #673AB7

Purple #9C27B0

Magenta #E91E63

Blue gray #607D8B



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