

Hacking Assessment: 10 Ways to Go Gradeless in a Traditional Grades School (Hack Learning Series) (Volume 3)

By Starr Sackstein

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How to Go Gradeless -- Assessment That Makes Learning Visible
"What's my grade? What's it worth? Is there extra credit? Is this for a mark? " It's time to shift the conversation and make learning visible. Now, you can easily stop reducing students to a number, letter, or any label that misrepresents learning and assessment in education. Now, you can help children see the value in every single assignment. Today, you can make assessment a rich, ongoing conversation that inspires learning for the sake of learning, rather than as a punishment or a reward. All you have to do is **go gradeless.**
Throw out your grade book tomorrow!
In *Hacking Assessment: 10 Ways to Go Gradeless in a Traditional Grades School*, award-winning teacher and world-renowned formative assessment expert Starr Sackstein unravels one of education's oldest mysteries: how to assess learning without grades -- even in a school that uses numbers, letters, GPAs, and report cards. While many educators can only muse about the possibility of a world without grades, teachers like Sackstein are reimagining education. In this unique, eagerly-anticipated book, Sackstein shows you exactly how to create a remarkable no-grades classroom like hers, a vibrant place where students grow, share, thrive, and become independent learners who never ask, "What's this worth?"
Learn what formative assessment really looks like.
Summative assessment is typically an end-of-unit exam or standardized test, but what is formative assessment? Many teachers struggle with the concept. *Hacking Assessment* not only explains what formative assessment is, it provides blueprints for implementation and examples from educators around the world, who use this strategy successfully every day.
Read It and You Can Take These Actions Immediately:

- Shift everyone's mindset away from grades
- **Track student progress** without a grade book
- Communicate learning to all stakeholders in real time
- **Maximize time** while providing meaningful feedback
- Teach students to reflect and **"self-grade"**
- **Deliver feedback** in a digital world
- Create e-portfolios and cloud-based learning archives

- **Inspire Students** to share their work openly

This is not your average assessment book
Hacking Assessment won't bore you with outdated research or unrealistic strategies. In her captivating, conversational style, Sackstein provides practical ideas woven into a user-friendly success guide with actionable steps for creating an amazing conversation about learning that ***does not require a traditional grade****. Each chapter is neatly wrapped in this simple Hack Learning Series formula:*

- The Problem (an assessment issue that plagues education)
- The Hack (a **ridiculously easy solution** that you've likely never considered)
- What You Can Do Tomorrow (no waiting necessary)
- Blueprint for Full Implementation (a **step-by-step action plan** for capacity building)
- The Hack in Action (yes, someone has actually done this)

Teachers around the world are going gradeless, and you can too
Scroll up and click the **Buy Now or Add to Cart button; read *Hacking Assessment* now, and go gradeless tomorrow.**

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Editorial Review

Review

"Anyone interested in assessment can learn from this book" **-Daniel McCabe, assistant principal and blogger**
"Hacking Assessment is a must read for any educator consideringthe possibilities of throwing out the grades and hacking the way we have always assessed our learners" **-Tony Sinanis, author and former principal of the year**

"The beauty of the book is that it is not an emptyargument against grades-but rather filled with valuable alternativesthat are practical and will help to refocus the classroom on whatmatters most**"- Adam Bellow, Founder of Edu Clipper, and Edcamp Foundation Board Member**

"In this book Starr Sackstein challenges the traditional paradigm of grading with lots of practical advice about how to provide and utilize descriptive feedback instead of relying on the symbolic and very limiting representation provided by grades. The book, however, is much more than that because it is an extremely valuable primer about how to make students reflective learners who take charge of their own learning." - **Ken O'Connor, author and assessment expert**

"Grades are a crude and ineffective tool to convey what matters most in a student's development. Hacking Assessment, Starr Sackstein's report of her courageous, thoughtful and illuminating effort to design a better approach to assessment is a terrific read for educators who worry about the values that a single letter or number grade can convey." --Angela Maiers, Author/International speaker "Ms. Sackstein has created an excellent resource for changing the traditional mindset and moving to a collaborative, reflective model of assessment. I recommend this book to teachers, administrators and educational stakeholders who may be searching for a better way." --Michael Curran, Education Professor Rider University

From the Author
It's time to get rid of grades and now you can. Ever since I've started my journey to improve student learning, I've been working hard to create an atmosphere and system that would work beyond my classroom. I hope you find the work useful and see improvements in your students right away.

About the Author
Starr Sackstein is a National Board Certified teacher, popular author and speaker, and two-time Bammy Awards Finalist. She teaches English and journalism at World Journalism Preparatory School in Flushing, NY. She is a Dow Jones News Fund Special Recognition Adviser, Education Update Outstanding Educator, and New York State Director of the Journalism Education Association and an internationally recognized leader in assessment strategies and the no-grades classroom movement. Starr is the author of Blogging for Educators (Corwin, 2015), Teaching Students to Self-Assess (ASCD, 2015) and The Power of Questioning (Rowman and Littlefield, 2015). She also writes the “Work in Progress” blog for Education Week Teacher and co-moderates the often trending #sunchat on Twitter and the global Facebook group, Teachers Throwing Out Grades. Balancing a busy teaching career with writing, speaking, blogging and being the mom to 10-year-old Logan is a challenging adventure. Seeing the world through his eyes reminds Starr why education needs to change for every child.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Sharon Hollars:

As people who live in the modest era should be change about what going on or facts even knowledge to make all of them keep up with the era that is always change and progress. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by reading through books. It is a good choice for yourself but the problems coming to an individual is you don't know what type you should start with. This Hacking Assessment: 10 Ways to Go Gradeless in a Traditional Grades School (Hack Learning Series) (Volume 3) is our recommendation to cause you to keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and want in this era.

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