Formative Assessment Supported by the "Digilib" Digital Library

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Abstract

The databases of formative assessment (FA) tools addressing selected topics in 2nd stage primary school science, mathematics, and informatics have been created within the VEGA No. 1/0265/17 and KEGA No. 004UPJŠ-4/2020 research projects. The concept of formative assessment, its tools, and strategies have been defined and explained in the monographs entitled Formative Assessment in Teaching Science, Mathematics, and Informatics by Ganajová et al. (2021) and Implementation of Formative Assessment in Teaching Science, Mathematics, and Informatics by Ganajová et al. (2022). The FA tools that we have developed are available in the "Digilib" digital library hosted on the server https://digilib.fri.uniza.sk/ and equipped with a SSL certificate. Digilib allows for the creation and storing of FA tools (forms) such as the self-assessment card, prediction card, or Frayer model, which can be assigned to students thus providing both them and teachers with real-time feedback. Currently, 8 primary schools, 16 teachers, and 46 classes (grades 5 to 9) with the total of 846 students are registered in the digital library. Teachers can pick and use the FA tools from the databases as needed and adapt them if necessary. Moreover, a survey was conducted to collect teachers' opinions on the digital library provided. The analysis of their answers pointed out numerous advantages for both teachers and students, e.g. easy and simple interface, quick feedback about students' current state of knowledge, automated creation of complex overviews of students' answers, or their archiving. Quick feedback allows the teacher to verify whether individual students understand the subject matter or specific pieces of information, which helps organise classroom discussions addressing students' understanding. Students can work with the digital library at school as well as at home. The feedback provided helps students develop objective self-assessment, fill in the gaps, and modify their misconceptions in learning.

References

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Keywords

formative assessment, formative assessment tools, digital library, teacher opinions