

WBL Portfolio: Using Reflection Writing to Document Student Growth

Multiple measures are important to capture and document all the ways that a student can grow through WBL and result in stronger WBL portfolio artifacts. Using the Student Skills Assessment Rubric from the WBL Toolbox, read each scenario and answer each question.

WBL Scenario

Part A: At the beginning of the year, Suzie is quiet and shy. Always compliant in class, Suzie completes quality work and always helps her classmates. During the first few weeks at work, her boss gives instructions that Suzie didn't understand. Suzie's shyness makes it difficult for her to ask for help, so she doesn't complete tasks correctly. This leads to conflict with her boss, who doesn't realize Suzie needs additional help.

- On the Student Skills Assessment Rubric, what skill level is Suzie demonstrating at work on "Collaboration" and "Speaking & Listening?" How about on "Initiative & Self Direction?"

Part B: Suzie's WBL coordinator helps her understand her boss's expectations and, together, they practice asking questions for clarification. Suzie practices paraphrasing instructions to be sure she understands the tasks at hand. Suzie's performance improves dramatically, which leads to praise from her boss.

- Now, how would you rate Suzie's performance?

Part C: Suzie responds well to her boss's praise and begins to thrive at work. One day, she tells her WBL coordinator an idea she has to improve her job at work to make it easier and faster. The WBL coordinator helps her write out her ideas clearly and Suzie takes her proposal to her boss, even though she is intimidated. The boss loves Suzie's idea and asks her to help train her peers in the improved process. Suzie's confidence grows and she earns a promotion.

- Now, how would you rate Suzie's "Collaboration" and "Speaking & Listening"? What other areas is she also strong in as a result? (Initiative & Self Direction? Adaptability & Flexibility? Others?)

Reflection Questions:

How might a reflection paper show that Suzie demonstrated significant growth? What other artifacts may help Suzie document her growth in her WBL portfolio?

What accommodations might be needed if Suzie has an IEP and an associate area of deficit in written expression?