The Actionable Assessment Cycle and Unit Planning

1. Clarify Learning Target(s)
2. Embed Short-Cycle Formative Tasks in Instruction
3. Uncover Thinking Document Evidence
4. Interpret Evidence & Frame Feedback
5. Determine Next Steps to Advance Learning
6. Use Performance Tasks to Assess Transfer & Deepen Learning
7. Interpret Evidence & Determine New Targets that Build on Prior Learning

Repeat this “inside” loop several times with increasingly more complex tasks as mid- and post-assessments.

Design Units of Study Using 5 Essential Teacher “Moves”

- **Ask** (a series of) Probing Questions that Increase in Complexity
- **Build** Schemas (Mental Models) in Every Content Domain
- **Consider** Strategic Scaffolding to Increase Engagement
- **Design** Complex Tasks of Increasing Complexity
- **Engage** Students in Metacognition and Reflection at All Stages of Learning

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**Actionable assessments** uncover thinking, tell us where students are on the learning path, and provide entry points to actionable feedback for self- and peer-assessments.