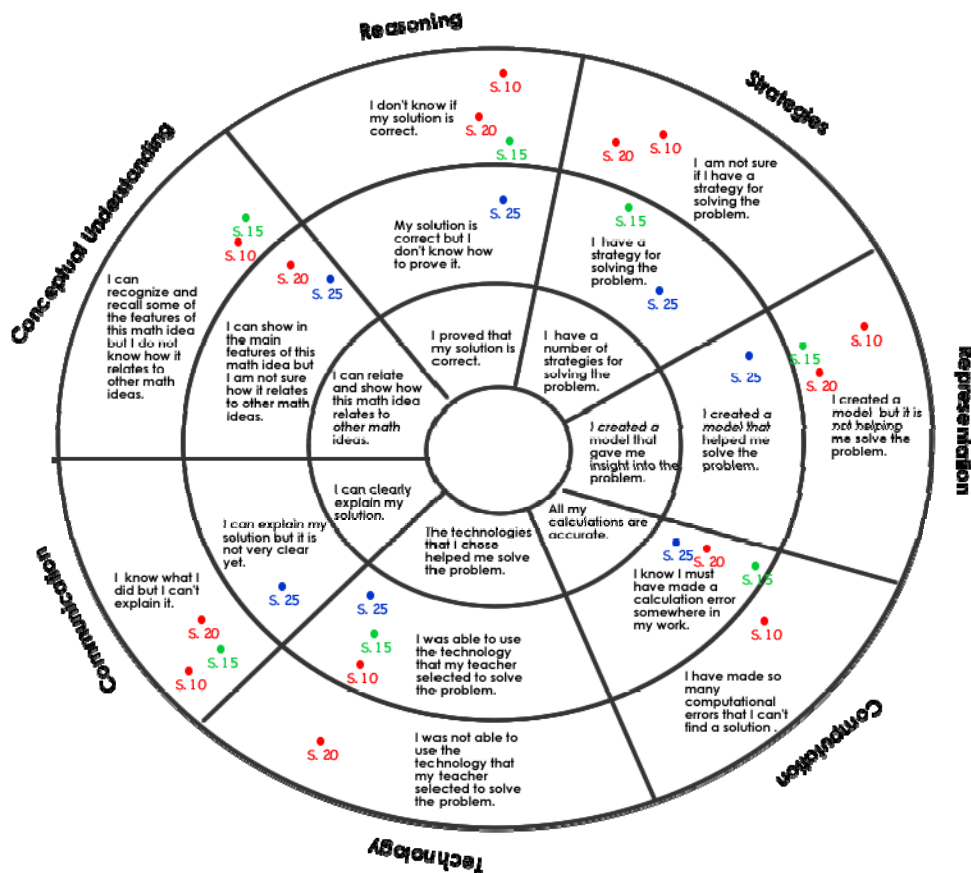


Suggestions for Using Rubrics with Young Children

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The format of a rubric can be daunting for a young student. Reformatting it into a "dart board shape (bull's eye)" and rewording the rubric in "kid-friendly language" goes a long way in inviting students into the assessment process.

A bull's eye can help teachers make student reflections, journals and learning logs much more focused, more explicitly linked to understanding and more closely aligned with goal setting to improve learning. It is a way of conducting self-assessment that goes way beyond, "I didn't do so great this week. I think I will try harder next week."



Using a bull's eye:

1. divide the entire target into the same number of sections as you have features of understanding
2. label the features of understanding on the outside of each segment of the circle

3. have students pinpoint, on a weekly basis, their level of understanding in terms of each feature of understanding. Date the dots for each week.
4. have each student reflect, in writing, on how his or her learning is improving, based on pinpointing his or her understanding that week, and set a goal for the next week.