



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

By Starr Sackstein

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

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 considering the 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 empty argument against grades-but rather filled with valuable alternatives that are practical and will help to refocus the classroom on what matters 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 Bammie 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:**

#### **Pamela Edmonds:**

Have you spare time for a day? What do you do when you have a lot more or little spare time? Sure, you can choose the suitable activity with regard to spend your time. Any person spent their particular spare time to take a stroll, shopping, or went to the particular Mall. How about open or read a book allowed Hacking Assessment: 10 Ways to Go Gradeless in a Traditional Grades School (Hack Learning Series) (Volume 3)? Maybe it is to become best activity for you. You know beside you can spend your time using your favorite's book, you can wiser than before. Do you agree with the opinion or you have additional opinion?

#### **Harold Baughman:**

Spent a free time and energy to be fun activity to accomplish! A lot of people spent their down time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they performing activity like watching television, gonna beach, or picnic inside park. They actually doing same every week. Do you feel it? Will you something different to fill your own personal free time/ holiday? May be reading a book can be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing that you will ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the e-book untitled Hacking Assessment: 10 Ways to Go Gradeless in a Traditional Grades School (Hack Learning Series) (Volume 3) can be excellent book to read. May be it is usually best activity to you.

#### **Sandra Wright:**

Your reading sixth sense will not betray anyone, why because this Hacking Assessment: 10 Ways to Go Gradeless in a Traditional Grades School (Hack Learning Series) (Volume 3) reserve written by well-known writer who knows well how to make book which might be understand by anyone who have read the book. Written in good manner for you, dripping every ideas and composing skill only for eliminate your current hunger then you still doubt Hacking Assessment: 10 Ways to Go Gradeless in a Traditional Grades School (Hack Learning Series) (Volume 3) as good book not merely by the cover but also from the content. This is one book that can break don't judge book by its handle, so do you still needing a different sixth sense to pick this specific!? Oh come on your reading through sixth sense already said so why you have to listening to another sixth sense.

#### **Ian Bracy:**

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