Formative Assessment vs Summative Assessment

Assessment <i>for</i> Learning	Assessment of Learning
Teachers, students and parents are the primary users	Teachers, principals, supervisors, program planners, and policy makers are the primary users
During learning	After learning
Used to provide information on what and how to improve achievement	Used to certify student competence
Used by teachers to identify and respond to student needs	Used to rank and sort students
Purpose: improve learning	Purpose: document achievement of standards
Primary motivator: belief that success is achievable	Primary motivator: threat of punishment, promise of reward
Continuous	Periodic
Examples: peer assessment, using rubrics with students, descriptive feedback	Examples: final exams, placement tests, state assessments, unit tests