

**QUICK**  
*Tip*



## The Muddiest Point



### WHAT IS THE MUDDIEST POINT ACTIVITY?

The Muddiest Point is a feedback and monitoring technique that enables instructors to quickly identify areas of difficulty or confusion for their students. In this activity, students are asked to identify the most challenging or confusing aspects of a lesson or topic, allowing instructors to adjust their teaching approach to better meet students' needs. Similar to the Minute Paper, the Muddiest Point is easy to use and can be a valuable tool in assessing student understanding. However, it's important not to overuse any single assessment technique, as this can lead to student fatigue and diminish the effectiveness of the process.

### WHAT IS ITS PURPOSE?

1. Help instructors assess student understanding and identify areas where additional support or clarification may be needed.
2. Promotes active engagement and reflection among students, encouraging them to think critically about the material and to identify areas where they need further clarification
3. helps foster a supportive and collaborative classroom environment, as students disclose their struggles.

### HOW TO USE IT?

- Decide what you want feedback on: the entire class session, a specific segment/topic, etc.
- Decide whether to collect feedback in class or online with Moodle, Microsoft forms, etc.
- Ask students to complete the statement: "My muddiest point in today's session/Chapter#/ /Topic, etc. is...?"
- Explain to students the purpose of this activity.
- Provide clear instructions and expectations.
- Encourage students to be specific and concrete in their responses providing examples where possible.
- Use responses to guide instruction and to clarify misunderstandings, either by addressing them in class or providing additional material.