**Handout 3.2**

**What is a Culminating Activity?**

A culminating activity should
- be central to the purpose of the course or the unit and require students to think about important issues or questions;
- be multifaceted, requiring a number of skills, different learning styles or mental intelligences, and assess more than one aspect of achievement;
- be engaging and hold the interest of students over time;
- use important content and meet many of the specific expectations of the curriculum guideline;
- provide for clear assessment of student development with levels of achievement identified;
- be authentic in nature or represent a real-life experience, role or application as opposed to a contrived situation;
- provide opportunities for the teacher and student to monitor the process of development of the activity or project and assess (formative) the learning;
- be described in advance to the students, including examples, timeline for development, process sequence, expectations, and formative and summative assessment.