Acknowledgements

This training program was developed by the Georgia Department of Education as part of a series of professional development opportunities to help teachers increase student achievement through the use of the Georgia Performance Standards.

For more information on this or other GPS training, contact Gerald Boyd at (404) 656-0476 or gboyd@doe.k12.ga.us.

Use of This Guide

The module materials, including a Content Facilitator’s Guide, Participant’s Guide, PowerPoint Presentation, and supplementary materials, are available to designated trainers throughout the state of Georgia who have successfully completed a Train-the-Trainer course offered through the Georgia Department of Education.

Materials (guides, presentations, etc.) will be available electronically on http://www.georgiastandards.org under the training tab after all trainings of Day 1 have occurred. Consult the trainer for availability.
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Overview

By the end of Day 6 of training, participants will be able to:

1. Define differentiation and explain the importance of differentiation in the standards-based education process.

2. Explain key elements in planning for differentiation.

3. Describe and develop procedures for differentiating instruction in a flexible classroom.

4. Describe and develop effective classroom management strategies in a differentiated classroom.

5. Describe the roles of the teacher in a differentiated classroom.

6. Set individual goals for differentiating instruction in each classroom.
Module Sequence

Prior Preparation—Participants will have attended Days 1 through 5 of GPS training; or, if replacing another trainer, be thoroughly trained in the knowledge, skills, and conceptual understandings introduced in Days 1 through 5. In addition, read Carol Ann Tomlinson’s “Mapping a Route Toward Differentiated Instruction.” *Educational Leadership* 57.1 (Sept. 1999): 12-16. [http://pdonline.ascd.org/pd_online/diffinstr/el199909_tomlinson.html](http://pdonline.ascd.org/pd_online/diffinstr/el199909_tomlinson.html).

Introduction to Differentiation (1½ hours)
- Calvin’s Day at School
- Defining Differentiation, An Introduction
- The Three Stages of Standards-Based Education, A Review
- Looking Inside Our Classrooms

The What, How, and Why of Differentiation (3½ hours)
- Overview of What, How, and Why of Differentiation
- Guided Practice Analyzing a Differentiated Task
- Differentiation Stratego: A Reality Game
- True/False Quiz: What Does Differentiation Look Like?

The Teacher’s Role in a Differentiated Classroom (1 hour)
- Rethinking Our Roles
- Setting Personal Goals for Differentiating
**Module Materials for Day 6 of Training**

**Content Facilitator’s Kit contents:**
- Content Facilitator’s Guide (one for each leader)
- Complete set of slide transparencies (PowerPoint)
- Participant’s Guide (one per participant and one per leader)

Other materials needed:
- Name tags
- Easel chart paper and stand
- Flipchart paper and stand
- A number of colored markers for flipchart
- Post-it Notes
- Masking tape to post chart paper

**Equipment:**
- Overhead projector or computer and LCD projector

**Days 4 and 5 Follow Up/ Day 6 Preparation**

Remind participants to complete the assigned reading as preparation for Day 6. Also remind each participant to bring a copy of the unit of instruction he/she is currently teaching OR a copy of a unit he/she has helped plan, and as well as the notebook from Days 1 through 5 of training.
Recommended Readings/Viewings/Websites: Differentiation

Note: A more general list of resources for the standards-based education process is contained in the materials for Day 1 of training.


This excellent resource includes three VHS tapes and a Facilitator's Guide. The videos provide clips of real differentiated classrooms and include commentary by Carol Ann Tomlinson. One set of these materials is being sent to each local system.


Berger provides an overview of four areas of differentiation: content, process, product, and learning environment. In addition, she lists seven guiding principles for curriculum differentiation developed by the curriculum committee of the Leadership Training Institute.


This report examines information on the theory and research behind differentiated instruction and the intersection with Universal Design for Learning (UDL), a curriculum designed approach to increase flexibility in teaching and decrease the barriers that frequently limit student access to materials and learning in classrooms. The report includes a number of links to sites with more information about differentiated instruction.


Using varying types/levels of graphic organizers provides one means of differentiating content or process. This website includes a number of different types of graphic organizers along with explanations and suggestions for their use. Links to other resources may also be valuable.

Individual and group investigations, valuable strategies for differentiation, may be organized as I-Searches. An I-Search can actively engage students in the research process as they pursue questions of importance that they care about. This site explains one version of the I-Search process.


This article examines the potential benefits of standards-based instruction for English Language Learners (ELLs), presents a standards-based process for designing standards-based instructional units, and reviews the design of two standards-based units for ELLs. The benefits of performance standards for ELLs are clearly represented in a chart included in the article.


This site, developed by Renzulli Learning Systems, provides comprehensive enrichment and differentiation activities for students. Beginning by determining an individual student’s profile—interests, abilities, preferred style of expression, and learning style—this site then matches individual students with a number of enrichment and differentiation opportunities. Although the resource is still in the development stage, this URL offers teachers a free trial opportunity to navigate the site.


This introduces a framework for utilizing technology to address the needs of all students and meet the challenges posed by high standards and increased student diversity.


Use this twelve item teaching style inventory to self-assess and self-score your teaching style in the areas of concept representation, learning, interaction, and cognitive processing.

This valuable resource explains both the theory behind and the means to achieve differentiation in mixed-ability classrooms. Each school received one copy of this resource along with other materials in the fall of 2004.


Tomlinson provides a view into three separate classrooms to illustrate what a differentiated classroom does and does not look like.


In this book, Tomlinson discusses the what, how, and why of differentiation, and provides examples from a number of differentiated classrooms.


This resource provides a brief primer on differentiation, as well as six differentiated units of instruction for grades K-5: two language arts units, two mathematics units, one science unit, and one social studies unit.


This resource provides a brief primer on differentiation, as well as six differentiated units of instruction for grades 5-9: one language arts unit, one mathematics unit, one science unit, two social studies units, and one French unit.


This resource is scheduled to be published in August of 2005.
Specialists’ Contact Information

For a list of district coordinators visit the Georgia Learning Connection:

English Language Learners
http://www.glc.k12.ga.us/contact/contact.asp?groupname=ESOL+District+Coordinators

Gifted and Talented
http://www.glc.k12.ga.us/contact/contact.asp?groupname=Gifted+Education

For specialists at the Georgia Department of Education:

English Language Learners—Victoria Webbert
vwebbert@doe.k12.ga.us
Gifted and Talented—Dr. Sally Krisel
skrisel@doe.k12.ga.us
Exceptional Students (Special Education)—Deborah Keane
dkeane@doe.k12.ga.us
### Agenda

This is a one-day course, with approximately 6 hours of instructional time.

Prior Preparation—Participants

- Bring a copy of an instructional unit for a class you are currently teaching.

Introduction to Differentiation..................................................................................1½ hours

- Calvin’s Day at School
- Defining Differentiation, An Introduction
- The Three Stages of Standards-Based Education, A Review
- Looking Inside Our Classrooms

The What, How, and Why of Differentiation...............................................................3½ hours

- Overview of What, How, and Why of Differentiation
- Guided Practice Analyzing a Differentiated Task
- Differentiation Stratego: A Reality Game
- True/False Quiz: What Does Differentiation Look Like?

The Teacher’s Role in a Differentiated Classroom....................................................1 hour

- Rethinking Our Roles
- Setting Personal Goals for Differentiating
Introduction to Differentiation

Time

1½ hours

Overview

In the introduction, the participants share their preconceptions about differentiation and relate these preconceptions to Carol Ann Tomlinson’s statements about differentiation. Then, the group reviews Stages One, Two, and Three of the Standards-Based Education Process and examines the importance of differentiation in this process.

Objectives

- Define differentiation and explain the importance of differentiation in the standards-based education process.
- Explain key elements in planning for differentiation.

Activities

- Evaluate Calvin’s Day at School
- Share Preconceptions About Differentiation
- Review Stages One, Two, and Three of SBE Process
- Self-Evaluate

Materials

- Overhead projector or computer and LCD projector
- Transparencies or PowerPoint presentation
- Participant’s Guide
Calvin’s Day at School

Title Slide
Show title slide and welcome participants to training.

Note Cards
- As participants come into the training session, have them fill out an index card with their name and contact information. Explain that you will use the information to send them materials and set up a dialogue with the group.
- Have them note their status in understanding of Georgia Performance Standards: They attended last year’s training in science, they attended redelivery of science, they have heard about the standards, they have no previous experience with GPS.
You may wish to share your contact information with them at this time.

Announcement:
SAT Prep Online Course

The Georgia Department of Education (GDOE) is pleased to announce the availability of the College Board’s Official SAT Prep Online Course™ for all students in grades 9-12. The Online SAT Prep Course is another component of our continuing efforts to assist local systems in improving the quality of education for students in Georgia. Available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, this program can be integrated into classroom instruction or may be used as a self-paced independent study for students. While we are not going to go into detail here, we have included detailed information in the appendix to the Participant’s Guide.

[Trainer’s Note: This is also reprinted in the appendix to the Facilitator’s Guide and the Participant’s Guide.]
Show slide, Calvin & Hobbes cartoon. [Trainer's Note: The digital file for this cartoon is too large to represent in Facilitator's Guide.]

-present:-

- **Let's take a minute to examine Calvin's day at school.**
  What do you see? What general statements might we make about Calvin's day? [Allow time for participants to respond.]

- **Does it appear that Calvin's educational needs are being met? Why or why not?** [Allow time for participants to respond.]

Show slide, Essential Question 1. 

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**Essential Question #1**

What does differentiation imply and how does differentiation fit into the standards-based education process?
Defining Differentiation, An Introduction

1. Present:

- **In order to meet the needs of diverse learners in our classrooms, we must differentiate instruction to meet those needs. Let’s take a minute to list some of the characteristics of diverse learners we have in our classrooms.** [List participants’ responses on chart paper.]

- Expect or work to elicit responses such as:
  - advanced or gifted learners
  - struggling learners
  - English language learners
  - students with disabilities
  - students with varying degrees of experiences and/or prior knowledge
  - students with personal or family problems that inhibit their ability to learn
  - students with varying interests and/or attention spans.

2. Present:

- **As we can see from this list, the needs of the diverse learners we encounter in our classrooms each year, like Calvin’s needs, can’t be addressed with a “one size fits all” approach to teaching and learning.**

- **In today’s workshop, we will be focusing on differentiation of instruction in order to address the needs of all students. But just what do we mean when we use the term differentiation? Let’s take a few minutes to identify our preconceived notions of differentiation.**

- **In your table groups, brainstorm your ideas about differentiation then discuss your brainstormed lists. Be prepared to share your ideas with the whole group in 7-10 minutes.**

- Allow 7-10 minutes for the table groups to discuss, then ask each group to share their ideas.
3. Present:

- In the past few minutes we have touched on a number of ideas about diverse learners and differentiated instruction, and we will spend the remainder of today exploring many of these ideas. However, a thorough and comprehensive study of differentiation is beyond the scope of our workshop today. ASCD has prepared a series of materials on differentiation that will complement and enhance the information from today’s training. This series, *At Work in the Differentiated Classroom*, Alexandria, VA: ASCD, 2001, includes three VHS tapes and a Facilitator’s Guide. The videos provide clips of real differentiated classrooms and include commentary by Carol Ann Tomlinson. The facilitator’s guide suggests formats for utilizing the videos and other materials. One set of these materials will be provided to each local school system and each RESA. In addition, each system will receive one copy of *Differentiation in Practice, Grades K-5* and one copy of *Differentiation in Practice, Grades 5-9*. I strongly recommend that you use these resources to further your conceptual understanding of differentiation.

- Let’s take a look now at some of the experts’ statements about differentiation.
4. Show slide, *What is Differentiation?*

Let’s examine the key elements here: “Differentiation can be defined as a way of teaching in which teachers proactively modify curriculum, teaching methods, resources, learning activities, and student products to address the needs of individual students and/or small groups of students to maximize the learning opportunity for each student in the classroom.”

What does it mean when we say differentiation is “a way of teaching?”

Allow participants to respond. Summarize responses and conclude: Differentiation is not merely a single strategy or bag of tricks we can pull from. Differentiation is more a philosophy that requires us to rethink teaching and learning in order to understand not only what to do but also why it matters . . . to rethink not only our instructional decision-making but also the learning environment and what our classrooms look and feel like . . . to rethink everything we do in light of the potential for the academic growth of all students.

In a differentiated classroom we modify curriculum, teaching methods, resources, learning activities, and student products PROACTIVELY.

We make the conscious decision to offer multiple ways of learning and multiple means of providing evidence of learning that are based on our assessments of the needs of those students or groups of students in our classrooms, assessments that are continuous and ongoing.
5. Show next slide, *What is Differentiation (2nd with same title).*

**What is Differentiation?**

- Differentiation adapts what we teach, how we teach, and how students learn, and how students show what they have learned based on the readiness levels, interests, and preferred learning modes of students.

- Differentiation is classroom practice that looks eyeball to eyeball with the reality that kids differ, and the most effective teachers do whatever it takes to hook the whole range of kids on learning.

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- **Assessment is the bedrock of a differentiated classroom. In order to meet the needs of individual students or groups of students, we must be cognizant of our students’ prior knowledge and experiences, as well as of their readiness to learn those skills and concepts included in different units of instruction.**

- **Because individual students have a variety of strengths and weaknesses, assessing readiness is continuous and ongoing. A student, for example, may read fluently and comprehend sophisticated texts but, at the same time, have difficulty communicating his/her ideas in writing.**

- **We must also explore and address the individual interests of our students. As Wiggins and McTighe emphasize, engaging students is an essential step toward student learning; and tapping into the interests of our students is one way to hook them.**

- **Finally, as we have discussed in our previous days of training, students learn and provide evidence of learning via different modalities. Knowing the learning styles and preferences of our students allows us to provide instruction and assessment opportunities that work best for those students.**

6. Transition: *I’ve just referred to what we’ve discussed on previous training days, but we may not all be at the same readiness level in terms of our prior knowledge and experience with the SBE process, so let’s review that process before we move on.*
The Three Stages of Standards-Based Education, A Review

Slide: The SBE Model

1. Show slide, The Standards-Based Education Model. [Trainer’s Note: Click to show each stage of the model.]

- How does all of this fit into the Standards-Based Education process? To answer this question, we need to review the stages of the standards-based education process. [Trainer’s Note: Name each of the three stages and click to show that information on the slide.]

- To review the stages of the SBE process, we’re going to form peer groups based on prior knowledge and experience. I know some of you have been to all of the GPS training, Days 1 through today, Day 6; some of you have been to every session EXCEPT Day 1; some missed both Day 1 and Day 2; some attended for the first time for Days 4 and 5; and some of you may be new today.

- If today is your first day, raise your hand. [Note any new participants and assign them to separate groups. The number of groups will depend on the total number of participants, but you will need to have a minimum of 3 groups. The goal is to create a number of groups equal in prior knowledge and experience.]

- Now, raise your hand if you have been to all of the Days of GPS training. [Divide these participants among the different groups.]
2. Present:

- Assign the remainder of the participants to a group according to the days of training they have attended. The goal is to create a number of groups equal in prior knowledge and experience.

- Relate the story of the young boy and the violin. It is on page 8 of your Participant’s Guide. Use this story to give participants a perspective of how teaching the Georgia Performance Standards will evolve.

- After reading the story, say:

- **Some of the teachers in your district may have questioned the value of the GPS training process.** Just as the young man in the story realized the value of his violin, some educators now realize how valuable the implementation of Georgia Performance Standards is regarding student achievement. Hopefully, as the year progresses much of our anxiety and apprehension about the implementation process will be eased.

- In your groups, I’d like for you to review briefly the different stages of the SBE process. [Assign each group a different stage. If you have more than 3 groups, have multiple groups assigned to a single stage.]

- You will have 10 minutes to review the essential information relevant to your assigned stage of the SBE process and to represent that information on chart paper. In 10 minutes, I’m going to ask you to share this essential information with the rest of the group. [Designate wall space where charts can be posted in order: Stage One, Stage Two, and Stage Three.]

- Allow 10 minutes for group work. Provide 5 and 1 minute warnings. Encourage participants to post work as they finish.
The Young Boy and His Violin

There was once a young boy who was participating in an auction. He was interested in auctioning off his new attractive, well-crafted violin which he had just acquired. As the young boy began to interact with the hundreds of people that had gathered around the stage where he was standing, the inexperienced boy, not aware of the value of this priceless object began to shout to the crowd, “$1! $2! $3 for this violin!”

As the boy shouted to the large assembly, an elderly man standing in the rear of the crowd observed what was happening. The old man slowly began to make his way to the stage where the boy continued to bargain with certain individuals in the crowd.

The elderly man took the violin from the boy and carefully placed the instrument under his chin. He began to play the violin with such a unique style, such superior skill, and an unequalled mastery, that he left the crowd spellbound and astonished by his remarkable talent.

As the old man handed the boy back the violin, the young boy looked at the instrument as if it was the most precious thing he had ever received. The boy raised the violin high as he could in the air and started to shout to the crowd, “$1000! $2000! $3000, for this violin!”

From this experience the young boy realized the value of his violin. Some of the teachers in your district may have questioned the value of the GPS training process. Just as the young man in the story realized the value of his violin, some educators now realize how valuable the implementation of Georgia Performance Standards is regarding student achievement. Hopefully, as the year progresses much of our anxiety and apprehension about the implementation process will be eased.
3. Ask group(s) that focused on Stage One to share their work, then summarize and ask: **What connections do you see to differentiation at this stage of the process?**

- Allow for responses, then say: *In their resource guides entitled, Differentiation in Practice, Carol Ann Tomlinson and Caroline Cunningham Eidson state, “There is no such thing as effective differentiation devoid of high-quality curriculum . . . . The teacher’s first job is always to ensure that curriculum is coherent, important, inviting, and thoughtful. Then and only then does it make sense to differentiate that curriculum.” The Georgia Performance Standards provide a high-quality curriculum for all learners.*

4. Ask group(s) that focused on Stage Two to share their work, then summarize and ask: **What connections do you see between assessment and differentiation?**

- Allow for responses, then say: *Tomlinson and Eidson stress the connections between assessment and differentiation. They note that “everything a student says and does is a potential source of assessment”; assessment in ongoing. First we must pre-assess to determine a student’s “knowledge, understanding, and skill set related to an upcoming unit or lesson” because it’s “critical for the teacher in a differentiated classroom to have a sense of student starting points.” Tomlinson and Eidson specify that assessment must also occur throughout the unit to continuously figure out a student’s knowledge, understanding, and skill set as s/he progresses through the unit; and final assessments should involve more than one format, for example, a product as well as a test or essay.*

5. Ask group(s) that focused on Stage Three to share their work, then summarize and ask: **Does differentiation also play a part in Stage Three: Making Instructional Decisions? How?**

- Allow for responses, then say: *As we saw from Rick Stiggins’ work, assessment for learning means using assessment to make instructional decisions. We plan instruction based on what we find out each day about our students’ progress toward the learning goals.*
6. Show slide, Grant Wiggins' quotation.

According to Grant Wiggins:

"Good planning leaves room for the unplannable.
You do not know what you'll be doing on April 11, and you're a fool if you think so. If you do, then the curriculum is more important to you than your students."

(Grant Wiggins, "Designing and Using Student Reflections and Self-Assessment," ASCD Summer Conference on Differentiated Instruction and Understanding by Design, June 2005)

7. Present:

- At the ASCD conference on differentiation held in New York the last week of June this year, Grant Wiggins stated that "Good planning leaves room for the unplannable. You do not know what you'll be doing on April 11, and you're a fool if you think so. If you do, then the curriculum is more important to you than your students."

- Wiggins may be exaggerating; he certainly advocates using the SBE model to plan instruction at the course and unit levels, so he's not saying we shouldn't plan. However, the message here is clear: in a differentiated classroom, teachers intervene and adjust instruction to meet the needs of the learners in that classroom; and that means using feedback from Monday's class to determine exactly what I need to do on Tuesday. Therefore, I will plan instruction carefully, but I must be willing to modify those plans to meet the needs of the students each day in my classroom.

8. Transition: So far we've been speaking theoretically about differentiation. Before we move on to the what, how, and why of differentiating on a practical level, let's each apply some basic assumptions underlying differentiated instruction to our own classroom practices.
Looking Inside Our Classrooms

1. Present:

- As stated previously, establishing a differentiated classroom is a way of thinking about teaching. Most of us are already at work implementing the Georgia Performance Standards in our classrooms. You’ve identified the learning goals for a unit of instruction, prepared an assessment plan, and made instructional decisions. We’ll be talking specifically about the what, how, and why of differentiation a bit later, but first let’s take a minute to pre-assess. Let’s each look inside our individual classrooms to see where we are before we determine where we hope to go and how we’re going to get there.

- You’ll need the copy of a plan for a unit of instruction that you brought with you and the list of “Some Underlying Assumptions of Differentiated Instruction” (PG-9). If you didn’t bring a copy of a unit plan, just respond with a particular unit of instruction in mind.

- Read each assumption and assess your own “way of thinking about teaching” by marking the star if this assumption is implicit in your practice throughout the unit, the smiley face if you’ve taken this assumption into consideration in some way for this unit, and the question mark if you need to think about your practice in terms of this assumption. You have approximately 10 minutes for this activity.
Some Underlying Assumptions of Differentiated Instruction (PG-7)

Read each assumption and assess your own “way of thinking about teaching” by marking the star if this assumption is implicit in your practice throughout the unit, the smiley face if you’ve taken this assumption into consideration in some way for this unit, and the question mark if you need to think about your practice in terms of this assumption.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Underlying Assumption</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. I have planned this unit to accommodate multiple and varied learning needs (social as well as cognitive), rather than attempting to accommodate them after student frustration or failure.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. I work to create and maintain a classroom community where students feel safe and valued as they are; at the same time I support each student in order to maximizing his or her potential.</td>
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<td>3. I interact with each student with positive regard and positive expectations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4. I recognize every student has both talents and areas of need, and I emphasize the student’s strengths rather than accentuating labels, deficits, or differences. At the same time, I do not call attention to the differentiation, but rather I help students appreciate varied ways in which all of them can find personal success with important goals.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5. I use multiple and alternative forms of assessment at all stages of student learning in this unit in order to uncover and address a full range of learning needs and strengths.</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. I gather and employ knowledge and information about my students in order to identify and address their varied readiness levels, interests, and learning profiles during this unit.</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. I find ways to provide access for all students to meaningful and powerful ideas, information, and skills in this unit rather than reducing the standards, watering down the curriculum, or assigning busy work.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. I use multiple methods in this unit to engage students in active learning. Although I may employ whole-class instruction, I know that differentiation does not take place during whole class instruction.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. I work to develop classroom management skills that allow 1) multiple tasks to proceed smoothly in the classroom, 2) students to take increasing responsibility for their learning, and 3) the time to monitor student activity and coach for student growth and quality work.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>10. I accept responsibility for successful teaching and learning of each student in the class while working collaboratively with specialists to ensure success of individuals and the class as a whole.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. After approximately 10 minutes, say: **This pre-assessment is for your own use, but let’s take a moment or two to debrief the activity and relate it to what we’ve looked at earlier this morning.**

3. Ask: **What are the important points that you have learned about differentiation so far?** [Allow participants to share what they’ve learned. Use this to summarize important points about differentiation before moving on to the next section of the training.]

4. Show slide, Essential Question #1.

   **Essential Question #1**

   What does differentiation imply and how does differentiation fit into the standards-based education process?

   - We began our exploration of differentiation with this essential question.
   - I’d like to conclude this section with a couple of additional points stressed by Carol Ann Tomlinson and others.

5. Show slide, What is Curriculum Differentiation?

   **What is Curriculum Differentiation?**

   “In differentiated instruction, classroom teachers make vigorous attempts to meet students where they are in the learning process and move them along as quickly and as far as possible in the context of a mixed-ability classroom. It promotes high-level and powerful curriculum for all students, but varies the level of teacher support, task complexity, pacing, and avenues to learning based on student readiness, interest, and learning profile.”
6. Present:

- As Tomlinson makes clear, differentiation involves beginning where our students are; however, as we all know, our students may not all be at the same place at the same time.

- To differentiate effectively, Tomlinson and Eidson advocate six essential principles to guide our decision making.
7. Show slide: Essential Principles of Differentiation.

We’ve already discussed the importance of having a rigorous curriculum for all students.

What do you think we mean when we say the “all tasks should be respectful of the learner”? [Allow participants to respond before going on.]

To challenge every learner, Tomlinson says “when in doubt, teach up.” What’s your response? [Allow participants to respond before going on.]

We’ll discuss assessment and flexible grouping in the next section.

The final essential principle of differentiation focuses on grading. Although we touched briefly on grading in Day 3 of training, we’re going to reserve our discussion of fairness and grading in a differentiated classroom for Day 7 of training when we look more closely at examining student work.

Keep these essential principles in mind as we move on to the next section and look at the what, how, and why of differentiation.
The What, How, and Why of Differentiation

Time
3½ hours

Overview
In this section will focus on the what, how, and why of differentiation. Topics of discussion will include readiness, student interests, and learning profiles; ways of differentiating content, process, product, and the learning environment; and access to learning, motivation to learn, and efficiency of learning. Participants will be provided with a guide for differentiating, and they will use this guide along with the information presented to prepare a plan for differentiating in a mixed-ability classroom.

Objectives
➢ Explain key elements in planning for differentiation.
➢ Describe and develop procedures for differentiating instruction in a flexible classroom.
➢ Discuss effective classroom management strategies in a differentiated classroom.

Activities
➢ Overview of What, How, and Why of Differentiation
➢ Guided Practice Analyzing a Differentiated Task
➢ Differentiation Stratego: A Reality Game
➢ True/False Quiz: What Does Differentiation Look Like?

Materials
➢ Chart paper and markers
➢ Transparencies or PowerPoint presentation
➢ Participant's Guide
➢ Cards, with profiles of individual students or groups of students
Overview of What, How, and Why of Differentiation


Essential Question #2

How do I know what to differentiate, how to differentiate, and why to differentiate in order to best meet the needs of the students in my classroom?

[Trainer’s Note: This section contains a great deal of information. Plan so that sufficient time is allotted for the application of this information in the Guided Practice and Differentiation Stratego: A Reality Game. Several of the handouts included in the Participant’s Guide and copied in the Facilitator’s Guide can be noted as resources without going into detail.]

2. Present:

- Differentiating in a mixed-ability classroom involves a complex process. It’s not as simple as deciding to differentiate and “voilà,” the next day or week or semester we’ve accomplished our goal.

- We need to work toward a more differentiated classroom one day at a time. As with all journeys, this one begins with the first step. Coming together to talk in a collegial way about differentiation is that first step.

- In this section of today’s workshop, we will look at a number of aspects of differentiation that will help us make informed decisions about differentiating in our classrooms.
3. Present:

- Each day when we enter our individual classrooms, we encounter students with diverse needs, abilities, and interests. Think for a moment about the students sitting in your classroom at this moment. Providing each of those students access to a rigorous curriculum is our goal.

- This, however, does not mean we must individualize instruction for every student. Rather it means we must plan for the diverse groups of students we meet each day.

- Children already come to school differentiated. Students in today’s classrooms represent a broad range of academic readiness, interests, learning profiles, modes of learning, and cultures.

- To maximize the potential for each learner, educators need to meet each child at his or hers starting point and ensure substantial growth during each school term. Sometimes that means pushing our students beyond their comfort zones.
4. Show slide: Come to the edge.

"Come to the edge," he said.
"We are afraid," they said.
"Come to the edge," he said.
THEY DID.
And he pushed them,
And they flew.
— Apolonaire

5. Present:

- The words of Apolonaire have particular significance both for the students we teach and for ourselves as teachers and instructional leaders.

- For most of us, differentiating in a mixed-ability classroom offers a challenge that brings with it moments of fear and uncertainty.

- Real growth occurs when we move to the edge of what we know and are able to do, don wings, and fly into new territory.

- How well we fly, however, depends on those wings. In this section we’re going to construct metaphorical wings that will allow us to soar into the realm of differentiation.

- Similarly, real student growth occurs when we encourage our students to move to the edge of what they know and are able to do—the zone of proximal development—help them build their wings, and then gently push them off the edge so that they can fly.

- In order to help our students fly, we must first determine how best to help them build their wings.
5. Show slide: How Do We Differentiate?

We determine how to differentiate by assessing the readiness, interests, and learning profile of particular students or groups of students.

6. Present:

- To determine a student’s readiness to learn, we must assess the student’s abilities, prior knowledge, and experiences.

- To determine a student’s interests we must take the time to find out that student’s likes and dislikes, what s/he spends time doing outside the classroom, and what piques that student’s desire to learn.

- To determine a student’s learning profile, we must analyze that student’s learning style in order to discover the most effective ways the student learns as well as the best ways for that student to provide evidence of learning and to convey understanding.

- We determine a student’s readiness, interests, and learning profile through assessment. Initially this means pre-assessing our students.

7. Show slide: Pre-Assessment.

Pre-Assessment

- a way to determine what students know about a topic before it is taught or the skill level of students before instruction begins. It should be used regularly in all curricular areas. Teachers can use the information gained in pre-assessment to make instructional decisions about student strengths and needs.

- a means to help the teacher determine flexible grouping patterns as well as which students are ready for different levels of instruction.
8. Present:

- Pre-assessment allows us to make the appropriate instructional decisions for each of our students. It also helps us to decide how to use flexible grouping to maximize learning.

- Tomlinson uses a chart to illustrate the range of activities in a differentiated classroom. This chart is reproduced on page 11 of your Participant’s Guide.

- In a differentiated classroom, students work in a variety of instructional arrangements, some whole class, some small group, some individual, and some student-teacher conferences.

- At times groups may be formed with students of similar levels of readiness, interests, or learning styles; other times groups may be made up of individuals with a range of abilities interests, or learning styles.

- Most importantly, the constitution of these groups changes throughout a unit or course of study based on the needs and/or growth of the students. Flexible grouping is an integral part of a differentiated classroom. Tomlinson and Eidson define flexible grouping as the “purposeful reordering of students into working groups to ensure that all students work with a wide variety of classmates and in a wide range of contexts during a relatively short span of time” (Differentiation in Practice, Grades 5-9, 235).

- Pre-assessment helps teachers determine the most effective activity formats and/or groups for particular purposes and to meet the needs of the diverse learners in the class.
9. Show slide: Pre-Assessment Strategies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-Assessment Strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teacher-prepared protocols</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing prompts or graphic organizers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student interviews</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student products and work samples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-evaluations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portfolio analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Game activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Show of hands to determine understanding: every pupil response</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drawing related to topic or content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standardized test information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student demonstrations and discussions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questioning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Questioning with readiness signals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Picture interpretation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prediction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacher observation checklists</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KWL charts and other graphic organizers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing prompts/samples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Informational surveys/questionnaires</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10. Refer to Participant’s Guide for examples of Pre-Assessment Strategies in science.
11. Present:

- This slide lists a number of pre-assessment strategies.

- You can find this list on page 12 of the Participant’s Guide as well.

- As you can see, testing is but one way to pre-assess.

- Assessing certain students or groups of students such as English Language Learners (ELLs) and learners with special needs often requires specific knowledge and skills. Our focus for today, however, is on differentiating in the mixed ability classroom.

- While all classroom teachers work with diverse populations, including English language learners and students with special needs, specialists are available at the school, system, or state level to assist in these areas. For specialists’ contact information, see page 6 in the Participant’s Guide.


- A few resources related to English language learners and students with special needs are included in the appendix to the Participant’s Guide. These include an overview of the factors involved in assessing English language learners, a list of instructional accommodations for ELLs, and a differentiation menu for students with special needs.

[Trainer’s Note: These resources are also included in the appendix to the Facilitator’s Guide.]

- Finally, assessment is ongoing throughout any unit of instruction. We don’t make differentiation decisions one time and move on. Differentiation is ongoing and guided by continuous assessment.
Range of Activities in a Differentiated Classroom

Classroom Instructional Arrangements

Whole Class Activities
- Pre-assessment (readiness/interest)
- Introduction of Concepts
- Planning
- Sharing
- Wrap-up of Explorations

Small-Group Activities (Pairs, Triads, Quads)
- Sense-Making
- Teaching Skills
- Directed Reading
- Planning
- Investigation

Individualized Activities
- Compacting
- Practice & Apply Skills
- Interest Centers
- Independent Study
- Testing

- Sense-Making
- Homework
- Products
- Study

Student-Teacher Conferences
- Assessment
- Tailoring & Planning
- Guidance
- Evaluation

Pre-Assessment Strategies

✔ teacher prepared pretest
✔ KWL charts and other graphic organizers
✔ writing prompts/ samples
✔ questioning
✔ guess box
✔ picture interpretation
✔ prediction
✔ teacher observation/ checklists
✔ student demonstrations and discussions
✔ initiating activities
✔ informational surveys/ questionnaires/ inventories
✔ student interviews
✔ student products and work samples
✔ self-evaluations
✔ portfolio analysis
✔ game activities
✔ show of hands to determine understanding: every pupil response
✔ drawing related to topic or content
✔ standardized test information
✔ reader response survey
✔ anticipation journals
12. Show slide: What Do We Differentiate?

**What Do We Differentiate?**

Pre-assessment information helps teachers to respond to students' needs and to match students' traits to specific, most effective means of differentiation:

- Content
- Process
- Product
- Learning Environment

13. Present:

- In order to decide how to differentiate, we need to look at the four most effective means of differentiating.

14. Show slide: What to Differentiate. [Trainer's Note: Click to reveal each of the four means of differentiation, one at a time.]

- The content of this slide is also on page 13 of the Participant's Guide.
What to Differentiate

Content
Content consists of ideas, concepts, descriptive information, and facts, rules, and principles that the student needs to learn. Content can be differentiated through depth, complexity, novelty, and acceleration. Content includes the means by which students will have access to information. Materials can vary according to reading level or by employing text materials on tape.

Process
Process is the presentation of content, including the learning activities for students, the questions that are asked, as well as the teaching methods and thinking skills that teachers and students employ to relate, acquire, and assess understanding of content.

Learning Environment
The learning environment is the way the classroom looks and/or feels, including the types of interaction that occur, the roles and relationships between and among teachers and students, the expectations for growth and success, and the sense of mutual respect, fairness, and safety present in the classroom.

Products
Products are the culminating projects and performances that result from instruction. They ask the students to rehearse, apply, or extend what s/he has learned in a unit. A product or performance provides the vehicle that allows students to consolidate learning and communicate ideas.
15. Present:

- Let’s take a closer look at each of these four means of differentiating.

- Time does not allow us to discuss all the possible differentiation strategies; however, a glossary of many of these strategies is provided in the Participant’s Guide.

[Trainer’s Note: The Facilitator’s Guide has this glossary as well.]

16. Show slide: Content. [Trainer’s Note: Present the information from each slide and ask participants to suggest additional strategies for each before going on to the next.]

Content consists of ideas, concepts, descriptive information, and facts, rules, and principles that are presented to the learner. Content can be differentiated through depth, complexity, novelty, and acceleration.

Examples of differentiating content include the following:

- Using reading materials at varying readability levels
- Putting text materials on tape
- Using spelling or vocabulary lists at readiness levels of students
- Varying rate, complexity, or pace of instruction in order to fill the teaching spectrum

(Sources: C.A., Differentiation of Instruction in the Elementary Grades, August 2000)

Some Strategies for Differentiating Content

- Varying rate of learning and complexity
- Technology
- Curriculum compacting
- Interest based mini lessons

Learning styles and Multiple Intelligences

Small group
Multiple texts and supplementary learning materials
Learning Contracts
Concept-based teaching
Readiness testing


Process is the presentation of content, including the learning activities for students, the questions that are asked, and the teaching methods and thinking skills that are used.

Examples of differentiating process or activities include the following:

- Using tiered activities through which all learners work with the same important understandings and skills, but proceed with different levels of support, challenge, or complexity
- Providing interest centers that encourage students to explore subsets of the class topic of particular interest to them
- Developing personal agendas (task lists written by the teacher and containing both in-class work for the whole class and work that addresses individual needs of learners) to be completed either during specified agenda time or as students complete other work early
- Offering manipulatives or other hands-on supports for students who need them
- Adjusting the length of time assigned to activities in order to provide a mix of challenge to all learners
- Offering specific supports such as a mini lesson or an explanation of a particular topic at greater depth

(Sources: C.A., Differentiation of Instruction in the Elementary Grades, August 2000)

Some Strategies for Differentiating Process

- Varied Journal Prompting
- Anchor Activities
- Choice of Work Arrangement
- Learning Stations
- Circle Reading Partners
18. Show slide: Products

**Products**

Products are the outcomes of instruction that consolidate learning and communicate ideas. Examples of differentiating products include the following:

- giving students options of how to express required learning in their preferred learning style (e.g., create a puppet show, write a letter, develop a mural with labels, etc.)
- using rubrics that match and extend students’ varied skills levels
- allowing students to work alone or in small groups on their products
- encouraging students to create their own product assignments as long as the assignments contain required elements

(Tomlinson, C.A., Differentiation of Instruction in the Elementary Grades, August 2000)

**Some Strategies for Differentiating Products**

- Tiered products
- Student choice
- Interest-based investigations
- Independent work
- Matching

19. Note: **Two, more comprehensive lists of products are provided in the appendix to the Participant’s Guide.**

[Trainer’s Note: These lists are in the appendix to the Facilitator’s Guide as well.]

20. Show slide: Learning Environment

**Learning Environment**

The learning environment is the way the classroom looks and/or feels, including the types of interaction that occur, the roles and relationships between and among teachers and students, the expectations for growth and success, and the sense of mutual respect, fairness, and safety present in the classroom.

Examples of differentiating the learning environment include:

- making sure there are places in the room to work quietly and without distraction as well as places that invite student collaboration
- providing materials that reflect a variety of cultures and home settings
- setting up clear guidelines for independent work that matches individual results
- developing routines that allow students to get help when teachers are busy with other students and cannot help them immediately
- helping students understand that some learners need to move around to learn, while others do better sitting quietly

(Tomlinson, C.A., Differentiation of Instruction in the Elementary Grades, August 2000)

**Some Strategies for Differentiating Learning Environment**

- Class Meetings
- Shared Decision Making
- Responsibility Journals
- Responsibility for Learning
- Established Protocols
21. Present:

- Classroom management is an integral part of the learning environment. In a differentiated classroom multiple activities may be taking place and multiple groups or other teaching/learning arrangements may be operating at any one time.

- Consequently, it is imperative to have classroom protocols in place for everything from what to do upon first entering the classroom, to how to move from activity to activity, to what to do if students finish early.

- Tape 2 of the ASCD set entitled *At Work in the Differentiated Classroom* focuses on classroom management. The DOE will be providing each system and each RESA with a set of these materials, and we recommend that you view this tape to learn more about classroom management in a differentiated classroom.

- There is a suggested list of classroom management strategies by Carol Ann Tomlinson in the Participant’s Guide.

In small groups brainstorm a list of classroom management practices. Have groups report strategies and record their ideas on a chart. Refer participants to tips listed in the Participant’s Guide on page 14 for a list of strategies for managing a differentiated classroom by Carol Ann Tomlinson.

22. Say: **Before we put these ideas into practice, let’s take a quick look at the reasons why we differentiate.**
23. Show slide: Why Do We Differentiate?

Why Do We Differentiate?

The key reasons for differentiating the learning experience are:

- access to learning
- motivation to learn
- efficiency of learning

Tomlinson, *The Differentiated Classroom*

[Trainer’s Note: Show each of the next three slides and review the information on each.]


Access to Learning

Students cannot learn that which is inaccessible because they don’t understand.

Tomlinson, *The Differentiated Classroom*

25. Show slide: Motivation to Learn.

Motivation to Learn

Students cannot learn when they are unmotivated by things too difficult or things far too easy.

Students learn more enthusiastically when they are motivated by those things that connect to their interests.

Tomlinson, *The Differentiated Classroom*

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Efficiency of Learning

Students learn more efficiently when they have a suitable background of experience.

Students learn more efficiently when they can acquire information and express understanding through a preferred mode.

Tomlinson, The Differentiated Classroom
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27. Show slide: The Equalizer.

```
The Equalizer

Concrete to abstract  
Simple to complex  
Basic to transformational  
Single facet to multi-facets  
Less independent to greater independence

Tomlinson, 1995
```

28. Present:

- Carol Ann Tomlinson has developed a tool to use in planning differentiated lessons. She calls this tool “The Equalizer.”

- The equalizer provides a visual guide to help teachers create tiered tasks.

- Teachers can adjust the difficulty of a task or a product along several continua.

- Tomlinson notes that “by matching task difficulty with learner readiness, a teacher can provide appropriate challenge for a given learner at a given time” (Differentiation in Practice, Grades 5-9, 235).

29. Here is an example of how one science teacher uses differentiation for students with different reading levels.
“For example, Mrs. Santos often assigns students in her science class to reading squads when they work with text materials. At this stage, group assignments usually are made so students of similar reading levels work together. She varies graphic organizers and learning log prompts according to the amount of structure and concreteness the various groups need to grasp essential understandings from the chapter. She also makes it possible for students to read aloud in their groups or to read silently. Then they complete organizers and prompts together. As students read, Mrs. Santos moves among groups. Sometimes she reads key passages to them, sometimes she asks them to read to her, but she always probes for deeper understanding and helps to clarify their thinking.

Sometimes Mrs. Santos asks students to complete labs, watch videos, or work with supplementary materials before they read the chapter so they have a clear sense of guiding principles before they work with the text. Sometimes they read the text for a while, do a lab, and go back to the text. Sometimes labs and supplementary materials follow text exploration. Frequently, she will have two versions of a lab going simultaneously: one for students who need concrete experiences to understand essential principles and one for students who already grasp the important principles and can deal with them in complex and uncertain contexts. (Ibid)

30. Present:

- Let’s examine the other continua in order to make sure we understand how they can be used to adjust the difficulty of a task or product.

- Allow time for participants to discuss and reach consensus regarding the other continua before moving on.

You can find this Equalizer on page 15 of your Participant’s Guide.
The Equalizer

Concrete to abstract
(representations, ideas, applications, materials)

Simple to complex
(resources, research, issues, problems, skills, goals)

Basic to transformational
(information, ideas, materials, applications)

Single facets to multi-facets
(directions, problems, applications, solutions, approaches, disciplinary connections)

Smaller leaps to greater leaps
(application, insight, transfer)

More structured to more open
(solutions, decisions, approaches)

Less independence to greater independence
(planning, designing, monitoring)

Slow to faster
(pace of study, pace of thought)

Tomlinson, 1995
Guided Practice: Analyzing a Differentiated Task

31. Show slide: Guided Practice.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guided Practice</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>THE TASK: In your table groups, analyze the differentiated tasks provided on the Guided Practice handout (PG-16-17).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE TOOLS: What do we differentiate—content, process, product, learning environment; Why do we differentiate—access, motivation, efficiency; The Equalizer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE TIME: 15 minutes and then group share.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
32. Present:

- Now it’s time to begin to apply what we’ve learned about differentiation. On pages 16-17 of the Participant’s Guide you will find a standard and elements along with a suggested task. In addition, the handout includes three differentiated tasks.

- Your job is to analyze these differentiated tasks to determine what and how the tasks have been differentiated.

- Is the content different? If so how?

- Are the processes different? If so how?

- Are the products different? If so how?

- Is the learning environment different? If so how?

- How might these differentiated tasks address the whys of differentiation: access, motivation, and efficiency?

- What continuas on the Equalizer do you see differentiated?

- You will have approximately 15 minutes in your table groups to analyze these differentiated tasks. At the end of that time be ready to share your analyses with the whole group.

- Provide 5 and 2 minute warnings. At the end of the allotted time, ask table groups to share their analyses. Discuss possible reasons for any different conclusions.
Guided Practice for Middle School

S7L3: Students will recognize how biological traits are passed on to successive generations.
   a. Explain the role of genes and chromosomes in the process of inheriting a specific trait.

Sample Task for S7L3a (This task is Sample Task B for this standard in the GPS.) Scientists have found that certain traits tend to be more dominant than others. Some traits are dominant and others are recessive. A dominant trait has a greater probability of showing up in successive generations. Gregor Mendel studied peas and used charts to explain his findings. Research Mendel and other individuals who study genetics to find out more about their findings. Also, include an explanation of how Punnett squares can be used to explain the probability of inheriting a specific trait. Present the results of your research in verbal or written form.

The Differentiated Tasks:

1. The student independently researches the work of Gregor Mendel and other scientists that have contributed to the study of genetics. Prepare a report highlighting the contributions of these scientists and present the research in the form of a power point presentation to their peers. Prepare several examples of Punnett squares and illustrate how they can be used to reveal inherited traits and probabilities of offspring. Then, each student will design another project and issue a proposal to the teacher. Each student will be responsible for setting the assessment criteria for the project and developing a rubric to be approved by the instructor.

2. Using a student generated graphic organizer, the pupil will work with two peers to compare the contributions of Gregor Mendel to two other scientists in the study of genetics. Each student will choose one scientist and prepare a report to present to the class. The students will also be given several Punnett square scenarios to determine the probability of a receiving a particular trait. Then, the student will prepare a science fiction story about the passing of traits to successive generations. Use the fictional story to create a story book that would help a younger student understand how traits may be passed from one generation to another.

3. Using a teacher prepared graphic organizer, the student will work with two peers to analyze the contributions of Gregor Mendel and one other scientist in the study of genetics. Each student will answer questions pertaining to a specific scientist. Then, the students will be given a table to complete illustrating the similarities and differences between the scientists. Also, each student will fill in the offspring correctly for a labeled Punnett square that contains the mother’s genes and the father’s genes. Finally, each student will create a cartoon related to inheriting specific traits.
Guided Practice for High School

SB2. Students will analyze how biological traits are passed on to successive generations.
   a. Distinguish between DNA and RNA
   b. Explain the role of DNA in storing and transmitting cellular information.
   c. Describe the relationships between changes in DNA and potential appearance of new traits.
   d. Examine the use of DNA technology in forensics, medicine, and agriculture.

Sample Task

Deoxyribose Nucleic Acid (DNA) is a three dimensional molecule that carries genetic information. Each pair of students will create a 3-dimensional model of a DNA molecule. The model should include representations of the four nucleotides and their pairings in DNA and the double structure. Each group will give an oral presentation discussing the make up of DNA, the cause of its double helix structure, its process of replication, and the effect of changing an amino acid sequence.

Differentiations of the Sample Task:

1. After constructing the model, students will go to the computer lab, using the website, http://gslc.genetics.utah.edu/units/basics/transcribe/, to discover how DNA molecules store information used to build other molecules. Each student will write a narrative explaining the process of transcription and translation learned through the activity. Students will include possible answers to the question, “How can the understanding of the process of replication be used to explain the appearance of new traits?” Students may research examples from forensic, medical or agricultural sciences.

2. After constructing the model, students will participate in a laboratory activity in which the teacher will give specific directions regarding the extraction of DNA from an onion skin. Students will deliver a group report on how their perception of DNA was affected after these two activities. In their summary, students should explain the connection between the components of the model and the extraction of the DNA and discuss what could cause the onion to exhibit different properties.

3. Before constructing the model, the class will be divided into four groups. Each group is given a colored piece of paper with the symbol (letter) for the nucleotide. The teacher will have a visual representation of the rules of the pairing of nucleotides within a DNA molecule. The students are first asked to pair according to those rules, then form two chains. After the activity, students reflect on the activity through a guided oral discussion by answering questions such as, “What limitations do these rules impose on the possible combinations?” “What advantages does the double helix structure of the DNA have compared with the chain that they just formed?” “What does this arrangement tell you about the number of ways in which the pairs of nucleotides may combine?” Finally, the students will be given time to write a reflection of the activity.
Differentiation Stratego: A Reality Game

33. Show slide: Differentiation Stratego: A Reality Game.

Each card contains profile information for one or more students. Shuffle the deck of cards and distribute an even number of cards to each person at your table. Use as many of the cards as possible. The cards distributed at your table make up a single class. You will be given a task along with the GPS from which that task has been developed. Your job is to provide appropriate differentiation in order to meet the needs of all students or groups of students in this class. Use the chart paper provided to display the results of your collaborative work. When finished, post your work in the designated area. You will have approximately 30 minutes to plan. Be prepared to share your differentiation plan with the group.

34. Present:

- **Establishing a differentiated classroom means taking into consideration the needs of the diverse learners in that classroom.**

- **One way to do this is to develop tiered tasks—that is, a number of versions of a single task adjusted for different learners or groups of learners, just as we saw in the guided practice.**

- **These adjustments take into consideration readiness, interests, and learner profiles. They provide different ways to access or process content, different types of products to provide evidence of understanding, and/or different learning environments including individual work, small group work, whole class work, and student/teacher conferencing.**

- **We’re going to practice differentiating via tiered tasks in this next activity.**
35. Present:

- Use the “deck” of playing cards and the sample tasks provided, and follow the instructions on this slide to “play” Differentiation Stratego: A Reality Game.

[Trainer’s Note: Sample tasks and the student scenarios for the playing cards are printed at the end of the appendix in this Facilitator’s Guide and the Participant’s Guide.]

- Remember, differentiation is not the same as individualized instruction. We often differentiate for groups of students in a mixed-ability classroom.

- You will have approximately 30 minutes to work in your table groups to prepare your differentiation plan. Obviously this isn’t enough time to plan as well as we might like, but you’ll be surprised at the amount you can accomplish when you put your heads together.

- Provide 10, 5, and 1 minute warnings. Distribute chart paper and designate a place for posting group work. As groups finish, provide tape for posting. When the time has expired, ask each group to share. Allow opportunity for other groups to comment on each presentation.
What Does Differentiation Look Like

36. Show slide: True/False Quiz.

A True/False Quiz: What Does Differentiated Instruction Look Like?

Directions:
- Turn to page 18 in your Participant's Guide
- Mark each item T if it is TRUE for a differentiated classroom or F if it is FALSE for a differentiated classroom.
- After you have responded individually, think/pair/share to compare your answers to the others in your table group.
- When you disagree, discuss your various points and attempt to reach consensus.
- Be prepared to share important points with the whole group.

37. Present:

- To conclude this section, we're going to take a brief True/False Quiz.
- You will find this quiz on pages 18-19 of your Participant's Guide.
- Follow the directions on the slide to complete the quiz. No cheating! Tomlinson's responses to these items are on the next slide; but remember they may be more than one way of looking at a particular item. Context is significant when discussing aspects of differentiation.
- You have 10-12 minutes for this activity and then we will compare our answers.
- Allow time for participants to discuss, compare, and provide reasons for their answers BEFORE revealing the next slide with one person's “right” answers.
What Does Differentiation Look Like: A True/False Quiz

Directions: Mark the item T if it is TRUE for a differentiated classroom or F if it is FALSE for a differentiated classroom. After you have responded individually, compare your answers to the others in your table group. When you disagree, discuss your various points and attempt to reach consensus.

_____ 1. Allowing all students in the class completing the same work for a unit/chapter.

_____ 2. Assessing students before a unit of instruction to determine what they already know.

_____ 3. Adjusting the core curriculum by content (below to above grade level).

_____ 4. Limiting how and what is taught by teaching to the average student.

_____ 5. Providing assignments tailored for students of different levels of achievement.

_____ 6. Having high expectations for ALL students.

_____ 7. Providing educational experiences which extend, replace, or supplement standard curriculum.

_____ 8. Assigning more work at the same level to high achieving students.

_____ 9. Focusing on student weaknesses and ignoring student strengths.

_____ 10. Using activities that all students will be able to do.

_____ 11. Structuring class assignments so they require high levels of critical thinking and allow for a range of responses.

_____ 12. Giving the same kind of problems or questions and expecting more.

_____ 13. Creating more work such as extra credit work, to do when assignment is completed.

_____ 14. Having students participating in respectful work.

_____ 15. Putting students in situations where they don't know the answer-often.

_____ 16. Ensuring that students and teachers are collaborating in learning.

_____ 17. Providing free-time challenge activities.

_____ 18. Differing the pace of instruction.
19. Using capable students as tutors.

20. Using higher standards when grading.


22. Using individualized instruction.
### Slide: What Does Differentiated Instruction Look Like?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Differentiated Instruction is...</th>
<th>Differentiated Instruction is not...</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supporting students to learn at their own level &amp; in their own way</td>
<td>Setting the same expectations for everyone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developing the same curriculum for everyone, regardless of ability and readiness</td>
<td>Changing the true and what is taught by teaching to the average student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing multiple paths for students of different levels of achievement</td>
<td>Assigning more work at the average level and averaging out student performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using higher standards when grading</td>
<td>Making the same test for everyone and expecting the same results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students participating in respectful work</td>
<td>Students not working in respectful work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students and teachers collaboratively creating standards</td>
<td>Not making higher standards for students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providing challenging work on their own level</td>
<td>Providing the same challenge to all students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All students in the class completing the same work</td>
<td>Not assessing students before a unit of instruction to determine what they already know</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Essential Question 2

How do I know what to differentiate, how to differentiate, and why to differentiate in order to best meet the needs of the students in my classroom?

### Transition:

Reaching a conceptual understanding of the what, how, and why of differentiation is the first step toward providing every student with the opportunity to learn. In the final hour of today’s workshop, we’ll look at the role of the teacher in a differentiated classroom and set some goals for differentiating our own classrooms.

---

38. Show slide: What Does Differentiated Instruction Look Like?

39. Present:

- **Take a minute to compare the answers we came up with to the “correct” answers, remembering that, depending on context, there may be more than one way to approach an item.**


37. Transition:
The Role of the Teacher in a Differentiated Classroom

Time 1 hour

Overview In this section will focus on the various roles and responsibilities of the teacher in a differentiated classroom. We will examine areas in which we may need to rethink traditional ways of doing in order to maximize every student’s opportunity to learn. We will look at a number of ways of differentiating that require low levels of preparation, as well as other means that require more preparation. Finally, we will develop individual action plans for moving toward differentiated classrooms.

Objectives
- Describe the roles of the teacher in a differentiated classroom.
- Set individual goals for differentiating instruction in each classroom.

Activities
- Comparing and Contrasting Teachers in Traditional and Differentiated Classrooms
- Analyzing and Creating Teacher Metaphors
- Developing an Individual Action Plan for Differentiation
- Assignments for Days 7 and 8

Materials
- Chart paper and markers
- Transparencies or PowerPoint presentation
- Traditional and differentiated comparison chart
- Participant’s Guide
- Cards with teacher metaphors
Rethinking Our Roles


![Essential Question #3](image)

What is the role of the teacher in a differentiated classroom?

2. Present:

- On pages 20-21 of your Participant’s Guide, you will find a chart that compares a traditional classroom to a differentiated classroom. Please turn to that chart.

- In your table groups, read through the characteristics of a traditional classroom and compose a brief description of the teacher you visualize in that classroom.

- Next, read through the characteristics of the differentiated classroom and compose a brief description of the teacher you visualize in that classroom.

- You have 7-10 minutes for this activity.
## A Traditional Classroom Compared with a Differentiated One

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Traditional Classroom</th>
<th>Differentiated Classroom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Student differences are masked or acted upon when problematic.</td>
<td>1. Student differences are studied as a basis for planning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Assessment is most common at the end of learning to see “who got it.”</td>
<td>2. Assessment is ongoing and diagnostic to understand how to make instruction more responsive to learner need.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. A relatively narrow sense of intelligence prevails.</td>
<td>3. Focus on multiple forms of intelligence is evident.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. A single definition of excellence exists.</td>
<td>4. Excellence is defined by individual growth from a starting point.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Student interest is infrequently tapped.</td>
<td>5. Students are frequently guided in making interest-based learning choices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Relatively few learning profile options are taken into account.</td>
<td>6. Many learning profile options are provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Whole class instruction dominates.</td>
<td>7. Many instructional arrangements are used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Coverage of texts and/or curriculum guides drives instruction.</td>
<td>8. Student readiness, interest, and learning profile shape instruction.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Mastery of facts and skills out-of-context is the focus of learning.</td>
<td>9. Use of essential skills to make sense of key concepts and principles is the focus of learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Single-option assignments are the norm.</td>
<td>10. Multi-option assignments are frequently used.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Time is relatively inflexible.</td>
<td>11. Time is used flexibly in accordance with student need.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. A single text prevails.</td>
<td>12. Multiple materials are provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Single interpretations of ideas and events may be sought.</td>
<td>13. Multiple perspectives on ideas and events are routinely sought.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
14. The teacher directs student behavior.  
14. The teacher facilitates students’ skills at becoming more self-reliant learners.

15. The teacher solves problems.  
15. Students help one another and the teacher solve problems.

16. A single form of assessment is often used.  
16. Students are assessed in multiple ways.

Carol Tomlinson, 1998.

4. Show slide: Traditional vs. Differentiated.

5. Allow time for participants to complete the activity, then ask:

- **How are the teachers you visualized in the two classrooms similar?** [Allow time for participants to respond.]
- **How are the teachers you visualized in the two classrooms different?** [Allow time for participants to respond.]
- **What conclusions might we draw from these similarities and differences?**

Responses will differ, but expect such things as:
- Teachers will have to be able to adapt.
- Teachers will have to be much better prepared.
- Teachers will have to be more flexible.
- The day of the teacher being front and center in the classroom are over.
- Teachers can no longer assume one size fits all.
6. Present:

- Earlier today I said that differentiated instruction is more a philosophy than a particular strategy or bag of tricks.
- This philosophy involves a change in mindset, a new vision of the role of the teacher in a classroom.
- One of the ways we might begin to develop this new vision of the role of the teacher is to think metaphorically.
- Let’s begin by looking at four possible metaphors: teacher as jazz musician, and teacher as artist, teacher as coach, teacher as gardener.
- I’m placing visuals around the room to represent these metaphors. I’d like for you to move to the metaphor that seems most relevant to you as you think about differentiating your classroom.

[Trainer’s Note: The graphics for these signs are reprinted in grayscale in the appendix to this Facilitator’s Guide.]
8. Present:

- **Working together with others who chose the same metaphor, create a list of attributes that a teacher as jazz musician, artist, coach, or gardener might have.**

- Allow a few minutes, then ask: **How might those attributes contribute to the establishment of a differentiated classroom?**

- **Now move back to your table groups and create at least one additional metaphor for a teacher in a differentiated classroom. Think quickly, we only have a few minutes for this activity.**

- Allow no more than 5 minutes, then ask the groups to share their metaphors.
9. Show slide: The Role of the Teacher in a Differentiated Classroom.

10. Present:

- **Tomlinson lists 7 teacher roles in a differentiated classroom:**
  - Preparing students for differentiation
  - Balancing whole-class and small-group instruction
  - Communicating with parents about differentiation
  - Teaching for individual growth
  - Coaching for individual growth
  - Helping groups work
  - Grading for excellence and equity
  - And charting individual growth

- She also specifies that teachers must provide clear directions and must be clear about learning goals.

- As we move to the last activity of the day—setting personal goals for differentiation—keep Tomlinson's list in mind.
Setting Personal Goals for Differentiating

1. Present:

- Carol Ann Tomlinson notes that differentiated classrooms don’t magically appear overnight. She contends that it is perfectly acceptable to begin slowly AS LONG AS WE DO BEGIN!

- To help teachers begin, Tomlinson has developed a list of what she calls “low-prep” and “high-prep” differentiation possibilities.

PG- 23: Low-Prep and High-Prep Differentiation

- Tomlinson’s list is reprinted on page 23 of your Participant’s Guide. Please turn to that page now.

2. Present:

PG-24: Action Plan


Trainer’s Note: The amount of time allotted here will depend on the time remaining. You need to allow time to sum up and time to go over the homework for next time.
Low-Prep and High Prep Differentiation

Low-Prep Differentiation
Choice of books
Homework options
Use of reading buddies
Varied journal prompts
Orbitals
Varied pacing with anchor options
Student-teacher goal setting
Work alone/work together
Whole-to-part and part-to-whole explanations
Flexible seating
Varied computer programs
Design-A-Day
Varied supplementary materials
Options for varied modes of expression
Varying scaffolding on same organizer
Let’s Make a Deal projects
Computer mentors
Think-Pair-Share by readiness, interest, learning profile
Use of collaboration, independence, and cooperation
Open-ended activities
Miniworkshops to reteach or extend skills
Jigsaw
Negotiated Criteria
Explorations by interest
Games to practice mastery of information and skill
Multiple levels of questions

High-Prep Differentiation
Tiered activities and labs
Tiered products
Independent studies
Multiple texts
Alternative assessments
Learning contracts
4-MAT
Multiple intelligence options
Compacting
Spelling by readiness
Entry Points
Varying organizers
Lectures coupled with graphic organizers
Interest groups
Tiered centers
Interest centers
Personal agendas
Literature Circles
Stations
Complex instruction
Group investigation
Tape-recorded materials
Teams, Games, and Tournaments
Think-Tac-Toe
Simulations
Problem-Based Learning
Graduated rubrics
Flexible reading formats
Student-centered writing Formats

Tomlinson, How to Differentiate in Mixed-Ability Classrooms, 34.
**Action Plan**

**Directions:** Complete the following chart to create your individual plan for building a differentiated classroom. Consider the following:

- What am I already doing to differentiate?
- How can I assess and use student readiness, interests, and learning profiles to maximize learning growth for every student?
- How can I differentiate content, process, products, or the learning environment?
- How can I employ Tomlinson’s Equalizer to create tiered assignments, activities, tasks, and products?
- What low-prep differentiations do I want to start with?
- What higher-prep differentiations do I want to work toward?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Differentiation:</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>How</th>
<th>Why</th>
<th>By When</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

Georgia Department of Education
3. Present:

- We have just skimmed the surface of differentiation today. Please dive deeper into this topic via the resources provided to each system and RESA by the DOE as well as the other resources listed in your Day 6 materials.

4. Present:

- Day 7 of training will focus on Examining Student Work, Fairness, and Grading.
- You'll find assignments for Days 7 and 8 listed in the appendix to your Participant’s Guide.

[Trainer’s Note: The assignments are listed in the appendix to the Facilitator’s Guide as well.]

- For Day 7, please bring a student work sample to training. This sample should include 4 copies of the student work, 1 copy of the assignment that generated the work including the standard(s) being assessed via this student work, and 1 copy of each of the two permission forms (teacher permission form and student/parent permission form). These forms are printed in the appendix to the Participant’s Guide.

[Trainer’s Note: The forms are printed in the appendix to the Facilitator’s Guide as well.]
5. Present:

- As you work to implement the GPS standards this first year, we also like for you record your experiences in a notebook, journal, or other calendar format. Note any tasks, strategies, assessments, etc., that worked especially well; critical comments about particular standards (e.g., gaps that need filling, elements that are problematic, terms that need defining, etc.); suggestions for teachers/instructional leaders in Phase II who will be implementing the following year; thoughts or ideas about the second year of your implementation; etc. Please bring this record with you to Day 8 of training. The State Board of Education will be reviewing the GPS each year, and your comments will provide information for this review, as well as topics for discussion in training. Don't worry, we don't plan to collect your journals...just your suggestions!

Slide: Give Yourself a Hand


7. Present:

- Thanks for coming and for all that you do for Georgia's students.

- Please remember that the staff at the DOE are available to help. Feel free to contact DOE personnel by phone or email.
Glossary

**Ability Grouping**—Grouping students according to similar readiness levels or learning profiles.

**Alternate Assignment**—Assignments given to particular students or groups of students in lieu of the assignment given to the other members of the class. These assignments are designed to capitalize on student readiness levels, interests, or learning profiles.

**Anchor Activity**—A task or activity that a student automatically moves to upon completion of other assigned work.

**Cluster Grouping**—Flexible grouping and regrouping of students within a classroom to accommodate different instructional needs at different times and/or for different subject or content, different readiness levels, interests, or learning profiles.

**Compacting**—Modifying or streamlining content, process, or product in order to eliminate repetition of previously mastered material.

**Contracting**—Students contract for grades and/or choose from a variety of available project/product options.

**Cooperative Learning**—Students work with other students in groups to achieve a specific goal or purpose. Each group member has a particular, predetermined role in helping the group reach its goal.

**Exit Cards**—Teacher distributes index cards to students a few minutes before the end of class. Students respond quickly to a specific prompt such as “What's the most important thing you learned today?” Exit cards provide a quick and easy method of assessing understanding.

**Flexible Grouping**—Purposeful reordering of students into a variety of different groups in a short amount of time in order to ensure that all students work with a number of different students on a regular basis. Criteria for grouping—readiness, interest, learning profile, activity or task, content—will vary regularly as well.

**Interest Centers/Groups**—Interest centers (often used with younger learners) and groups (often used with older learners) allow students choice in an area or areas of study.

**Independent Study Projects**—A student or small group of students pursues an area of interest related to a specific topic, curricular area, or individual area of interest.

**Literature Circles**—Small groups of students read and/or study different books with varying degrees of difficulty and/or focusing on a variety of topics of interest.
Product/ Project Options—Students choose from a variety of options the way that they will provide evidence of learning. These options allow students to utilize their individual strengths and interests.

Pyramid Activities—Any activity that begins with students working individually, progresses through pairs, groups of four, etc., until ending with the whole-class group. A good way to review material or to practice test-taking strategies. Students may begin by individually recording what they know and then add to or change their responses as they collaborate with other students.

Questioning Strategies—Different types of questions are employed before, during, and after an activity, a lesson, or a unit of instruction to engage and challenge students to demonstrate their understanding from the knowledge level to the evaluation level. These questions allow students to clarify their thinking, increase their knowledge, and deepen their understanding.

RAFT Activities—Students select a Role, Audience, Format, and Topic for a particular task. The task vary but may include writing, oral presentations, skits, review activities, etc.

Reader’s Workshop—This student-centered, instructional model for “real reading” uses authentic literature and allows students to self-select books. Students read at their own pace, reflect on what they read, and talk about their reading with others.

Reading Buddies—One name for peer reading partners, pairs of students who assist each other in reading for comprehension. They may take turns: one reading aloud and the other summarizing OR one reading aloud while the other formulates questions about that reading, etc.

Scaffolding—This refers to any support system that enables students to succeed with tasks they find genuinely challenging.

Subject/ Content Acceleration—A student or group of students moves to a higher level of at an earlier time or age than the other students.

Thinking Maps—Visual representations of ideas that allow students to “unpack” their thinking and organize ideas in a visual format rather than solely in sentences or paragraphs.

Tiered Assignments—Teachers adjust the degree of difficulty for a particular assignment or task in order to meet the needs of students with varying levels of readiness, varying interests, and/or varying learner profiles.

Writer’s Workshop—This student-centered, instructional model for “real writing” uses authentic assignments that allow students to participate in differentiated activities while participating in all stages of the writing process. Students spend time on self-selected writing activities.
Appendix

An Announcement: SAT Prep Online Course

The Georgia Department of Education (GDOE) is pleased to announce the availability of the College Board’s Official SAT Prep Online Course™ for all students in grades 9-12. The Online SAT Prep Course is another component of our continuing efforts to assist local systems in improving the quality of education for students in Georgia. Available twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, this program can be integrated into classroom instruction or may be used as a self-paced independent study for students.

The College Board will send specific information regarding the registration of students and educators to each high school principal. The online course is very user-friendly and does not require special training. However, in order to encourage all high schools to fully utilize the course, educators may attend a training session. There will be at least 10 training sessions available throughout the state, and at least one Web cast. The training will include an online demonstration of the course and instruction on maximizing usage of this valuable resource.

By August 1, 2005, the College Board, the facilitators of the Online SAT Program, will provide information for each high school in your district about the following items:

1. Personal access codes for each student in grades 9-12 in each high school
2. 18 interactive lessons that focus on critical reading, math, and writing
3. 600+ practice questions in critical reading, mathematics, writing
4. Explanations of answers to practice test items
5. Three full-length timed practice tests for the SAT
6. Personalized score reports on tests and quizzes for each student
7. Test Reports for the following categories:
   (A). practice test score by student
   (B). practice test question and answer by student and by class
   (C). practice test item type by student
   (D). practice college success skills by student
   (E). practice test summary by student and by class
   (F). practice test current performance by school and by district
   (G). practice test progress by class, by school, and by district
    (H). practice test roster by class
8. Online essay scoring service
9. Twelve-month subscription service for all students and educators.

You will receive information soon from representatives of the GDOE and/or College Board about professional learning classes for facilitators of the SAT Prep Online course in your high schools. We urge each of you to take advantage of this opportunity to improve student achievement on the SAT at no cost to local systems. Thank you for continuing to work toward our goal of leading the nation in improving student achievement. If you have any questions, please contact:

Charlotte Robinson
404-656-6854
crobinso@doe.k12.ga.us
Pre-Assessing the English Language Learner

Framework for Understanding the Learning of PLOTE & ELL Students: Who Am I Teaching?

**ENGLISH PROFICIENCY**
(Stages of Language Acquisition)

- **NEP** – no verbal production, focus on listening comprehension, build receptive vocabulary; draw, copy, act...
- **Beginner** – one, two word responses, production of known structures; name, list, label ...
- **Intermediate** – simple sentences, developing higher levels of language/thinking; recall, define, restate, summarize, contrast ...
- **Advanced** – complex errors in speech and print; focuses on reading and writing correctly, analyze, support, evaluate, create ...
- **Transition** – fluency approaches native speaker, focus on writing mechanics; all indicators

**CULTURE**
- Religion
- Child rearing practices
- Male/female roles
- Beliefs about success & failure
- Morality
- Proxemics
- Time
- Humor
- Acculturation stage
- Affective filter
- Motivation incentives
- Social class - Poverty!!

**EXPERIENTIAL BACKGROUND**
(Culture and Prior Living Experiences)

**ACADEMIC SKILLS**
(Prior & current Academic Records)

- Academic calendar
- School day setup
- Native literacy skills level
- Kind of skills & knowledge
- Student’s developmental stage at departure/arrival
- Instructional delivery method
- Parents educational level
- Native language structure & phonological system

**INSTRUCTIONAL STRATEGIES**
UbD, Learning Focused Schools

**Alternative Assessments**

© Victoria V. Webbert, 2003
Instructional Accommodations for ELLs

Accommodations for ELLS are appropriate and effective only to the level that these match the English language learners proficiency in English, prior academic knowledge and cultural learning patterns.

- give tests orally rather than in written form
- give more time to complete assignments
- allow same-language buddy to assist
- require fewer responses to demonstrate mastery
- permit incomplete sentences in responses
- permit ungrammatically correct sentences in responses
- provide lower level text on content material
- provide video on content material
- provide text on tape
- highlight key points
- reduce number of key points that student is responsible for knowing
- give advanced organizers/study guides
- permit open book tests
- use graphic organizers
- give written instructions as well as oral
- make a written record of instruction and display it on chart paper
- take time to develop students’ prior knowledge of new topics
- increase % of student talk about topic (more discussions)
- break students into small groups for discussion
- plan for group work
- use demonstrations when possible
- present model of work done well at the beginning of the assignment
- use hands-on activities when possible
- give sufficient wait time after asking questions
- adapt homework requirements to reflect stage of language development
- use performance based assessment when possible
- adapt project/assignment requirements so students can participate
- provide learning centers (language masters, books on tape, magazines for classifying and developing picture dictionaries, language based games)
- provide computer time (phonics software, Kidspiration graphic organizer software, internet)
- seat student near teacher or positive role models
• relate content to real life
• present tasks from easy to hard
• reduce details needed to learn main concepts
• use simpler vocabulary or paraphrase
• provide additional examples
• pair verbal directions with visual clues
• look at students when talking
• use audio-visual aids frequently
• provide student with outline of lesson notes
• use peer assisted note taking
• use role-playing
• use games
• provide self-checking materials
• use different colors for worksheets
• use enlarged type on worksheets
• reduce the length or amount of work
• mark only correct answers
• do NOT write the name of a Korean student in red...it means death
• give short quizzes/avoid long tests
• allow the use of a dictionary during tests
• allow student to take tests until passes/emphasize mastery
Georgia Department of Education, GPS Differentiation Menu

For students who have difficulty with writing/composing written material:
- cooperative learning groups
- word processing application
- dictation to a scribe or onto a tape
- demonstrate/role play
- oral responses, presentation, and assessments
- multi-media presentation
- graphic organizer
- extended time on timed tasks
- word prediction software
- Co-Writer, Write Out Loud, Dragon Naturally Speaking, or other software
- voice output computer programs
- spell check/grammar check (not allowed on standardized tests)
- task item rubrics
- teacher prepared format
- bread work into manageable parts
- individual or small group test taking
- story starters
- sentence starters
- outlines
- tape recorded essays and oral presentations
- voice activated software
- portable word processor
- prewriting conference/prewriting activities
- illustrations
- K-W-L chart
- provide sample work
- debates
- proofreading checklist
- word bank/word wall
- matrix usage
- note taking assistance
- provide student with key words on essay tests
- abbreviate assignments
- adapted writing tools or other assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who have difficulty with reading/accessing written material:
- cooperative learning groups/group discussion
- extended time on timed tasks
- voice output computer programs
• talking dictionaries
• break work into manageable parts/presentation of small chunks of a passage
• individual or small group test taking
• testing with reader or scanable text readers
• books on tape/listening to recording/viewing film version of story
• text read to the student by adult or peer
• reading guides (highlighted text, summaries, etc.)
• Language Master
• tracking light or other tracking device
• colored overlays
• computer generated books
• answer “yes/no” questions for comprehension checks
• choral reading
• pre-reading summary
• electronic text (text reader)
• oral (or audio) presentation to student
• teacher introduction of vocabulary words
• paired reading
• picture cues
• illustrations to show comprehension
• CoWriter, Write Out Loud, other software
• K-W-L chart
• previewing topics to introduce vocabulary and key concepts
• listening guide to facilitate note taking
• links to prior knowledge/personal experience
• debates
• word bank/word wall
• other assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who have difficulty speaking:
• sign language interpreter/transliterator
• augmentative communication devices
• communication boards
• cooperative learning groups
• usage of other preferred means of communication
• demonstrate/play act tasks
• picture symbol program
• object symbols
• voice output computer programs
• break work into manageable parts
• provide time to respond
• ask “yes/no” questions
• indicating correct answer by pointing
• assign written rather than oral reports
• avoid situations that create pressure
• other assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who have difficulty **listening:**
• cooperative learning groups
• visual presentation using computer software, such as *PowerPoint* or *Inspiration*
• break work into manageable parts
• repeat, rephrase, simplify statements and instructions
• provide time to respond
• use of literal, concrete speech
• visual aids
• preferential seating
• note taking assistance (copy or notes/note-taking guides/note taker)
• have student repeat instructions
• reinforce oral instructions with written instructions
• assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who have difficulty with **mobility:**
• cooperative learning groups
• switch use
• touch screen
• modified keyboards
• extended time on timed tasks (or waive timed tasks)
• modified handwriting and/or grid paper
• weighted pencils and other motoric devices
• slant board or wedge
• magnets, tape, or other paper stabilizers
• stabilized materials
• break work into manageable parts
• individual or small group test taking
• provide time to respond
• page turner
• flexible schedule/scheduled rest breaks
• provide assistance in manipulating classroom and personal materials
• note taking assistance
• adaptive or special furniture
• dictation to a scribe or onto a tape
• other assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who have difficulty attending to **task:**
• cooperative learning groups with specific tasks assigned
• rubrics
• graphic organizers
• extended time on timed tasks
• break work into manageable parts
• individual or small group test taking
• task analysis
• task analysis graphically displayed
• proximity control
• visual, verbal, and tactile cues
• gain student’s attention before delivery of information
• flexible schedule/scheduled rest breaks
• preferential seating
• note taking assistance
• provide study guides for tests
• have student repeat instructions
• regular notebook/agenda checks
• give abbreviated assignments
• set time allotments for tasks
• organizer/daily planner/homework notebook/folders
• fewer items on each page
• allow students to mark answers in workbooks and test booklets
• select optimal time of day for assessments
• provide study carrel or other quiet work space with minimal distractions
• assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who have difficulty with organizations/study skills:
• cooperative learning groups
• graphic organizers
• extended time on timed tasks
• break work into manageable parts
• individual or small group test taking
• task analysis
• task analysis graphically displayed
• organizer/daily planner/homework notebook/folders
• provide time to respond
• preferential seating
• provide sample work
• task item rubrics
• provide study guides for tests
• have student repeat instructions
• regular notebook/agenda checks
• set time allotments for task
• fewer items on each page
• provide study carrel or other quiet work space with minimal distractions
• provide books to remain at home
• establish and post daily routines
• allow students to mark answers in workbooks and test booklets
• assistive technology, as appropriate

For students who are **Deaf/Hard of Hearing:**
• sign language interpreter/transliterater
• amplification equipment
• sound-treated classrooms/special acoustics
• visual presentation using computer software, such as *PowerPoint or Inspiration*
• highlighted vocabulary
• closed captioning for viewing movies and other video presentations
• cooperative learning groups
• demonstrate/play act tasks
• voice output computer programs
• individual or small group test taking
• give short, specific verbal instructions
• story webs
• story starters
• *Write Out Loud, CoWriter,* or other software
• peer scribe
• note taking assistance
• provision of class notes with critical information, test questions, and highlighted vocabulary
• preferential seating
• refrain from speaking with back turned to students
• provide a work space with minimal noise
• other communication aids (assistive technology), as appropriate

For students who are **Visually Impaired:**
• Braille text/Braille writer
• enlarged print
• print with optical devices
• tactile symbols
• calendar system
• auditory and electronic formats
• dark or raised line paper
• cooperative learning groups
• slant board
• individual or small group test taking
• low vision devices/magnifying equipment
• screen readers/text scanners
• audiotaped directions and text (Talking Books for the Blind)
• word processing program with voice output
• electronic Braille note takers
• positioning in class away from glare
• black print handouts
- primary typewriter
- preferential seating
- usage of grid paper
- special or adapted lighting
- other alternate formats, communication aids, or assistive technology, as appropriate
**Student-Created Products**

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### Product Possibilities

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<th>Design political cartoons</th>
<th>Compile a newspaper</th>
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<td>Develop a solution to a community problem</td>
<td>Formulate &amp; defend a theory</td>
<td>Develop an exhibit</td>
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<td>Create a public service announcement</td>
<td>Conduct a training session</td>
<td>Conduct an ethnography</td>
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<td>Write a book</td>
<td>Design &amp; teach a class</td>
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<td>Design a game</td>
<td>Do a demonstration</td>
<td>Present a photo-essay</td>
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<td>Generate &amp; circulate a petition</td>
<td>Present a news report</td>
<td>Hold a press conference</td>
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<td>Write a series of letters</td>
<td>Make learning centers</td>
<td>Develop &amp; use a questionnaire</td>
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<td>Design &amp; create a needlework</td>
<td>Choreograph dances</td>
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<td>Conduct a series of interviews</td>
<td>Compile &amp; annotate a set of Internet resources</td>
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<td>Design or create musical instruments</td>
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<td>Write a series of songs</td>
<td>Compile a booklet or brochure</td>
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<td>Create a subject dictionary</td>
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<td>Make and carry out a plan</td>
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<td>Write letters to the editor</td>
<td>Write or produce a play</td>
<td>Present an interior monologue</td>
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<td>Design political cartoons</td>
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<td>Generate charts or diagrams to explain ideas</td>
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Teacher As . . . Graphics

Teacher As . . .

- Jazz Musician
- Coach
- Artist
- Gardener
Assignments for Days 7 and 8 of GPS Training

For Day 7 for all grade levels and all content areas:
Each participant should bring a student work sample to Day 7 of training. This sample should include 4 copies of the student work, 1 copy of the assignment that generated the work including the standard(s) being assessed via this student work, and 1 copy of each of the two permission forms (teacher permission form and student/parent permission form). These forms are in the Participant’s Guide for Day 6 of the training.

For Day 8 for all grade levels and all content areas:
As you work to implement the GPS standards this first year, please record your experiences in a notebook, journal, or other calendar format. Note any tasks, strategies, assessments, etc., that worked especially well; critical comments about particular standards (e.g., gaps that need filling, elements that are problematic, terms that need defining, etc.); suggestions for teachers/instructional leaders in Phase II who will be implementing the following year; thoughts or ideas about the second year of your implementation; etc. Please bring this record with you to Day 8 of training. The State Board of Education will be reviewing the GPS each year, and your comments will provide information for this review, as well as topics for discussion in training.
Permission Forms for Student Work

CONSENT AND ASSIGNMENT

This Consent and Assignment (the “Assignment”) is effective when signed by the undersigned Georgia educator (“Educator”) and is between Educator and the Georgia Department of Education (the “GDOE”). For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties agree:

1. GDOE gratefully acknowledges the contribution Educator is hereby making to GDOE of the original work product (the “Work Product”) created, developed, worked on or revised by Educator in connection with GDOE’s Georgia Performance Standards Project (the “Project”). So that GDOE may fully use the Work Product in any manner it sees fit, including making copies, modifications and derivative works, Educator hereby fully and unconditionally transfers, assigns and conveys to GDOE all of Educator’s copyright, ownership interests and other intellectual property rights in the Work Product (collectively, the “Intellectual Property Rights”). Educator further agrees that GDOE may publicly recognize and acknowledge Educator’s contribution to, and involvement in, the Project.

2. This Assignment is governed by Georgia law, can only be amended if both parties do so in writing, is assignable solely by GDOE and supersedes any contrary oral or written agreement or understanding. Educator grants to GDOE the power and authority to execute any documentation deemed necessary by GDOE to register or protect the Work Product or Intellectual Property Rights therein or complete the full transfer of the Work Product and Intellectual Property Rights to GDOE which is the purpose of this Assignment.

“Educator”

Signature: ________________________________

Print Name: ________________________________

“GDOE”

Georgia Department of Education

By: ________________________________

Name: ________________________________

Title: ________________________________

Date: ________________________________
CONSENT AND ASSIGNMENT

This Consent and Assignment (the “Assignment”) is effective when signed by the undersigned legal guardian ("Guardian") on behalf of the Guardian and minor Georgia student named below ("Student"), and is among Guardian, Student and the Georgia Department of Education (the "GDOE"). For good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the parties agree:

1. GDOE gratefully acknowledges the contribution Student and Guardian are hereby making to GDOE of the original work product (the “Work Product”) created, developed, worked on or revised by Student. So that GDOE may fully use the Work Product in any manner it sees fit in connection with GDOE's Georgia Performance Standards Project (the “Project”), including making copies, modifications and derivative works, Guardian on behalf of Guardian and Student (and their heirs and successors) hereby fully and unconditionally transfer, assign and convey to GDOE all of Student's and Guardian's copyright, ownership interests and other intellectual property rights in the Work Product (collectively, the “Intellectual Property Rights”). Guardian further agrees that GDOE may publicly recognize and acknowledge Student's contribution to, and involvement in, the Project.

2. This Assignment is governed by Georgia law, can only be amended if both parties do so in writing, is assignable solely by GDOE and supersedes any contrary oral or written agreement or understanding. Student grants to GDOE the power and authority to execute any documentation deemed necessary by GDOE to register or protect the Work Product or Intellectual Property Rights therein or complete the full transfer of the Work Product and Intellectual Property Rights to GDOE which is the purpose of this Assignment.

"Guardian"
Signature: __________________________________________
Print Guardian’s Name: ______________________________
Relationship to Minor: ________________________________
Print Minor’s Name: _________________________________

"GDOE"
Georgia Department of Education
By: ____________________________
Title: __________________________
Date: __________________________
Sample Tasks for “Differentiation Stratego: A Reality Game”

Middle School

S6E5: Students will investigate the scientific view of how the earth’s surface is formed.

b. Classify rocks by their process of formation.
c. Describe processes that change rocks and the surface of the earth.

A. “Classifying Igneous Rocks Using Crystal Size”: You will need a hand lens, samples of diorite, gabbro, and basalt, paper, and a pencil.

1. Copy the table on a clean sheet of paper.
2. Carefully examine each of your rock samples with the hand lens.
3. Record your observations on the table.

Questions
1. Which igneous rocks formed deep inside the earth? Explain your answer.
2. Which rocks form on the earth’s surface? Explain your answer.
3. Using information from this lesson, add granite, obsidian, and rhyolite to your table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROCK</th>
<th>CRYSTAL SIZE</th>
<th>TEXTURE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diorite</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Gabbro</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basalt</td>
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B. Sedimentary Rocks: Design an experiment to solve the problem.
Problem - How can you find out the order in which mud, sand, gravel, and pebbles settle in water?

Your experiment should:
1. List materials you need.
2. Identify safety precautions that should be followed.
4. Describe how you would record your data.

C. When you research you gather information about a topic. Metamorphic rocks, such as marble and slate, are economically important. Use reference books to find out where in the United States deposits of marble and slate are found. Also, list some ways in which marble and slate are economically important.

Sample Tasks for S7L2:

Standard: S7L2: Students will describe the structure and function of cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems.

a. Explain that cells take in nutrients in order to grow and divide and make needed materials.
b. Relate cell structures (cell membrane, nucleus, cytoplasm, chloroplasts, mitochondria) to basic cell functions.
The Tasks:

A. Research the organelles found in both animal and plant cells. Determine the organelles found only in plant cells and provide an explanation as to why they only appear there.

B. Write a skit that includes various cell organelles. Incorporate the names of the organelles and their functions in the skit.

C. Write a song pertaining to cells and sing it with the class. Include the name of each organelle and its function.

D. Prepare a report comparing the growth of a single-celled organism with that of a many-celled organism. What are the differences between the 2 types of growth? Construct a data table to reveal differences and similarities.

Sample Tasks for “Differentiation Stratego: A Reality Game”
High School

Biology Task

SB1. Students will analyze the nature of the relationships between structures and functions in living cells.
   a. Explain the role of cell organelles for both prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells, including the cell membrane, in maintaining homeostasis and cell reproduction.
   b. Explain how enzymes function as catalysts.
   c. Identify the function of the four major macromolecules (i.e., carbohydrates, proteins, lipids, nucleic acids).

Sample Tasks

A) Lab – Enzyme Structure and Function
   1. You are a medical intern practicing medicine in a remote hospital. You have a patient with symptoms that indicate a problem with one of the enzymes of the endocrine glands. In order to help your patient, you will do some research to learn more about enzymes. Examine classroom resources of images of different proteins that act as enzymes in living systems. Review the theories of enzyme function, such as the lock and key explanation. Read an article on enzyme deficiency diseases.
   2. Write an introduction to your lab report summarizing the relationship between the structure and function of enzymes. With a partner, design a laboratory activity that examines the function of enzymes and how that function is affected by the change of protein structure of the enzyme. Include a procedure that will allow you to change the structure of an enzyme and then test the changed enzyme to determine its activity. Enzyme structure (therefore, shape) is changed when the enzyme is exposed to changes in pH, increasing temperature or other factors that affect the bonding forces within the molecule. You will be supplied with hydrogen peroxide and viable cells from an organism (fresh potato, liver, grape, etc.). Peroxidase is a naturally occurring enzyme (catalyst) produced within the organelles of living cells that speeds the breakdown of hydrogen peroxide, which is a common waste product.
Part 1 - Set up a control group with hydrogen peroxide without cells to observe for evidence of breakdown. The production of oxygen bubbles is evidence of the breakdown of hydrogen peroxide as a substrate (the substance to be changed.)

Part 2 - Observe the reaction activity of hydrogen peroxide and potato when they are mixed together.

Part 3 - Change the structure of the potato enzyme with the method of your choice. Part 4 - Observe the reaction activity of the hydrogen peroxide and changed potato when they are mixed together.

3. Write a lab report using correct scientific terminology, including catalyst, rate of reaction, evidence of reactivity, etc. Your conclusion should demonstrate your understanding of the relationship between enzyme structure and function. Could a medicine be developed that would help a person who is missing a vital enzyme?

CS include SCSh2; SCSh3a,b,c,e,f; SCSh6; SCSh7b,d,e; SCSh8; SCSh9c,d

Physical Science Task

Students will simulate the process of radioactive decay using chips with different marks on each side. Students will draw a graph and calculate the half life time for their simulation.

Procedure:
1. Each group receives 100 or 200 similar chips.
2. Place the chips inside a box or a large enough plastic cup and shake them for about 15 seconds.
3. Spread the chips on top of your desk and separate them accordingly to their face design. Select one of the two designs and count how many chips you have with that design, write this number in a table, and placed them on the box again. Keep the other chips on a safe place where they won’t interfere with the rest of your experiment.
4. Repeat step 3 until you don’t have any chips left with the design that you selected.
5. Graph your results and draw a curve through the points. Calculate the half life time for your simulation.

Analysis:
Write a narrative that would include each of the following.
- Discussion of theory
- Procedure
- Data collection and analysis
- Discussion of errors
- Conclusions that evaluate the results of an activity in terms of theoretical concepts.
  - Explain how this simulation exemplify a radioactive decay process
  - If each time that you shake your box represented 1500 years, how long it took for your sample to reduced in half?
  - How many chips will you have after 4,500 years?
### Student Scenarios for “Differentiation Stratego: A Reality Game” Cards

<p>| Roy is a very bright student. He can remember most factual information the first time it is presented. However, he has a problem remaining focused during traditional instructional activities (lectures, worksheets, etc.) When he stops working he will sometimes look around the class, and beat on his desk. He simply cannot sit still, and he pester other students continually. | Ahmad is a gifted student. He is very interested in science. Ahmad often seeks out information pertaining to science outside the normal course curriculum. He excels on his daily class work, but will become bored if he is required to complete whole class assignments. |
| Sheila is an extremely quiet, intelligent young lady. She doesn’t participate in class discussions, but consistently performs well on standardized tests. Sheila turns in all of her homework and class work assignments. She receives A’s in all of her courses, but she dislikes completing more difficult or challenging assignments. | Phillip loves to draw. He has a book of cartoon characters that he uses his sketch paper to reproduce. Phillip often puts off classroom assignments to continue drawing the characters in his book. His classmates have acknowledged his talent, and often comment on his superior ability. |
| Roscoe is a very smart student. However, he likes to entertain the class with his jokes and spontaneous comments during class sessions. He makes “funny” comments that actually go far beyond humor. The cutting effect of such comments is intentional. His classmates often become distracted by his “off the wall” statements. Though Roscoe enjoys amusing the class, he completes his assignments on time. He receives A’s and B’s in all of his classes. | Demarcus has a lot of energy. He can’t sit still for more than 10 to 15 minutes at a time. He appears to be fidgety and has a very short attention span. He consistently gets out of his seat without permission and walks around the classroom. He attempts to move around the room when he should be working. If Demarcus is not out of his seat, he is raising his hand to ask permission to leave the room. His most common requests include: a) “Can I go to the restroom?” b) “I left my book in my locker. Can I go get it?” or c) “Can I go see the counselor?” |
| Stephen participates in various sports. He is a member of the basketball, football, and track teams. However, he is not consistent in turning in daily class work assignments. Stephen rarely completes homework assignments, and is a mediocre student. Stephen reads sports magazines incessantly. He is not a discipline problem, but does not seem to show an interest in anything besides sports. | Paul is an inclusion student. He feels a little uncomfortable being in a large class after years in a smaller setting. Paul thinks that many of the kids in his class are smarter than he is. As a result, he tends to withdraw during class discussions. He exhibits little or no effort on class assignments or projects. Paul can understand basic concepts and shows potential when he tries to complete the work he is given. |</p>
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<th>Carla likes to write poetry and listen to music. She often looks up her favorite artist's lyrics on the internet and attempts to memorize them. During class sessions it is not unusual for Carla to hum or sing to herself. Recently, her CD player was collected in class while she was listening to her favorite singing group. Carla aspires to become a famous singer and go on tour all over the world.</th>
<th>Kim is an extremely bossy student. She is very opinionated, and does not hesitate to interrupt lectures or class activities to challenge the validity of a concept presented. She does not work well in groups because she attempts to perform all the tasks herself without the assistance of other group members. Her classmates despise her and avoid working with her whenever possible.</th>
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<td>Lucy is very talkative. She can't wait for a break in the class session so she can exchange the latest gossip with one of her friends. She is a very poor listener and often does not realize she is talking. The teacher often has to tell her to stop talking at inappropriate times. Lucy is a very bright student, but allows her talking to interfere with completing individual assignments.</td>
<td>Stephanie has trouble with her reading. Her standardized test scores reflect that she reads several years below grade level. When Stephanie reads aloud, some of the students laugh at her. Stephanie has trouble pronouncing basic words, and she possesses low reading comprehension skills. She feels uncomfortable reading aloud in class because of the comments other children make toward her.</td>
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<td>Raphael always challenges the teacher's fairness regarding major tests. He seeks out alternative measures to prove his ability. Raphael may suggest to the teacher to take a different type of test or be tested after the class is tested. He often argues over the correctness of answers on the test. The teacher feels he may be trying to escape blame for his failures, and uses his behavior to gain attention from his peers.</td>
<td>Mary is a constant worrier. She worries so often it may lead to her becoming upset physically and mentally. She worries about tests, projects, and how people perceive her. Mary expects failure, and this expectation often deepens her worrying. Her feelings tend to lead to lack of participation and withdrawal during class activities.</td>
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<td>Joseph exhibits a superior attitude toward his classmates. He wants everyone to know how smart he is. He displays a competitive behavior and it may develop into confrontations with other pupils. Joseph also makes fun of peers who don't have the answers to certain questions. He doesn't allow other classmates to provide input, and uses his knowledge to get attention.</td>
<td>Demetrius always put things off. He has no sense of urgency regarding his assignments. He never gets anything done on time, and always possesses a “going to get it done tomorrow” attitude. However, he does enjoy nature. His hobbies include collecting rocks, insects, and leaves. He has expressed to his teacher he would like to become an ecologist or an entomologist.</td>
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<td>Laurie questions everything. She asks an abnormal number of questions about every conceivable subject. Laurie tends to ask questions even when she knows the answer. She even interrupts lectures or class activities to ask questions. Laurie makes very good grades, and her favorite subject is math. She would love to become a math teacher someday.</td>
<td>Jordan is extremely quiet and does not participate in class sessions. He sits in class and does nothing most of the time. Jordan does enjoy playing various games on the computer, and he seems to make attempts to participate in class sessions that involve review games (i.e., Jeopardy, Wheel of Fortune).</td>
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<td>Lakeisha approaches every task with an &quot;I can't&quot; attitude. Her teacher thinks Lakeisha lacks self-confidence. She even claims to be unable to complete assignments that she has done before. Lakeisha feels it's much better to say, &quot;I can't&quot; than to attempt any task. She will attempt to do rudimentary assignments, but refuses to do anything that requires her to complete complex tasks.</td>
<td>Ralph is an average student. He receives B's and C's in his core classes. He infrequently completes his homework and class work. Ralph's dad taught him how to work on cars. Ralph knows how to change oil, check tire pressure, and make other minor car repairs. He enjoys taking things apart and putting them back together. Ralph also enjoys working on electronic devices such as gameboys, radios, and even computers.</td>
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<td>Joy seems to be satisfied with second place. She intentionally identifies the classmate who is first or the most intelligent pupil. She feels that she is only worthy of second place. Joy is capable of being a top student, but she seems to have a sense of inferiority. She tends to idolize the first-place student, and her lack of self-confidence makes her feel she could never be first.</td>
<td>Chan is overwhelmed with the number of assignments he has yet to complete. He gets so far behind he can't seem to catch up. Every class day seems to dig him deeper and deeper into the hole of failure. Chan gets very frustrated when he is unable to finish his class work or assigned projects. He tries to do his best, but he can never seem to catch up.</td>
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<td>Simone is an inclusion student. She demonstrates a high degree of ability on the individual assignments she turns in. However, she always wants to do what the group is doing. She has a tendency to see herself as always &quot;part of the group.&quot; Simone can complete assignments on her own, but seeks attention from her classmates to validate herself.</td>
<td>Andrew does not complete his assignments because he says, &quot;I've never seen this before&quot; or &quot;I don't know anything about that&quot;. He repeatedly makes comments like, &quot;What?&quot; &quot;How did you do that?&quot; &quot;Huh?&quot; and &quot;Could you do that again?&quot; The teacher questions whether Andrew really doesn't understand or if he is &quot;playing dumb.&quot; He may be using this as a means to excuse himself from performing in the classroom.</td>
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<td>Heather makes strange sounds or noises in the classroom. Some of her common odd noises include: hums, whistles, throat noises, and tapping on her desk. Heather plays the violin in the orchestra, and loves listening to classical music. Sometimes the noise she makes prevents her from completing her assignments and may distract other students.</td>
<td>Samuel never finishes a project. He loves to plan large scale projects, but he never comes close to completion. When Samuel works in a group situation, he will praise those that go along with his elaborate ideas and ridicule the more conservative group members. His goals are often too high for successful achievement, and he leaves the majority of the work for his group members to complete.</td>
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<td>Robert is a student that has been retained several times during his schooling. Many of his past teachers pass him reluctantly because they don’t want to deal with his disrespectful behavior another year. Robert has the ability to perform on a satisfactory level in a school setting, but has yet to reach his full potential. He doesn’t work up to his ability level, and has taken on an indifferent attitude toward school because of past failures. Robert feels uncomfortable at times because he is older than the other students, and this makes him feel a little insecure.</td>
<td>Brittney complains about every assignment she is given. Her teacher usually writes the assignment on the board or tells the class when a project is due with very little input from the students. Brittney completes the majority of her work, but dislikes the redundant tasks she completes in class. In Brittney's spare time she writes and performs in plays for her local community center. She recruits younger kids from the neighborhood to participate in her productions. Brittney often wishes her classes at school were just as exciting as the performances at the community center.</td>
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<td>Ethan displays an “I don’t care” attitude toward school. He repeatedly says “he doesn’t care” to teachers, students, and other school personnel. He shows disgust and lack of interest in many of his class activities.</td>
<td>Suzico is an above average student, and a perfectionist. She takes more time to complete assignments than other students in the class because she wants to make sure her answers are correct and her penmanship is neat.</td>
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<td>Matthew likes to be the first person finished with his assignments. He is an intelligent young man, but he rushes through his work so he can be the first person complete. Occasionally, the speed at which he completes his assignments results in incorrect answers.</td>
<td>Maria is a good student. However, English is not her first language. Sometimes she struggles with comprehending the content of her textbooks because she is primarily a Spanish speaking student.</td>
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<td>Chris is every teacher’s favorite student. He consistently works to the best of his ability on every assignment. If he finishes early, he gladly assists the teacher or helps other students complete their work.</td>
<td>Margaret has to work harder to understand ideas and concepts; but once she does, she never forgets. She is always willing to spend extra time on assignments.</td>
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