

GUIDING QUESTIONS FOR BUILDING UDL LESSON PLANS

FOR ANY ENVIRONMENT



Firm Goals, Flexible Means

What is the key takeaway(s) for this lesson?

Communicate the key goal in multiple ways – say it aloud, post it in writing, and embed it online (Google Doc, Slides, digital notebook). Multiple modalities remove perceptual barriers and give every learner a clear, steady target

Challenge learners to identify their personal goals for the lesson/unit. Ask, "How will you meet this goal?"

How will all students express they met the goal of the lesson?

Consider Forms of Assessment and Formative Checks

Offer multiple ways to show understanding – exit tickets, quick quizzes, spoken responses, written reflections, video clips, or digital tools like Google Forms and Quizizz. Varied options remove barriers to expression and honor learner variability.

What will I provide multiple means of representation?

Aim to Enhance Representation as well as Action & Expression

Utilize visuals, mini-lectures, and multimedia representations delivered through Seesaw, G-Suite tools (Docs, Slides, Jamboard), Screencastify, or Zoom. Multiple formats remove perceptual and expressive barriers while sustaining engagement.

What flexible methods & materials will be used?

Allow Learners to Explore Resources and Encourage Participation

Offer a range of resources—print or e-books, hands-on or virtual manipulatives, interactive tools, and extra-practice materials—so every learner can access content in a format that fits their strengths and needs.

Who are my learners?
How can I minimize barriers?

Access, Access, Access

Begin with "Who are my learners?" Gather quick snapshots—prior knowledge, language, interests, sensory needs—to anticipate variability rather than react to it

Offer social-emotional check-ins—mood meters, Google Forms pulse surveys—to surface affect and adjust supports before they become obstacles.

How will I promote and sustain engagement?

Connect Students Funds of Knowledge

Surface what learners already know from home, culture, language, and community, then link new content to those lived experiences. Relevance drives curiosity and persistence.

How will I build opportunities for feedback and reflection?

Be sure to Reflect on your Implementation & Get Feedback

After each lesson, note what went well and what needs to change in response to learners' needs—capturing both successes and barriers.

Be sure to get feedback from your students: Invite feedback through quick conferences, short video check-ins, written reflections, or digital surveys/exit slips.

