

Enhancing Your Instructional Skills Through Differentiation

Janna Siegel Robertson, Ph. D.

- Session Overview

What Is Differentiation?

Differentiation Strategies

Differentiation Practice

Accommodations and Modifications

Resources

- Why Differentiate?
- All kids are different.
- One size does not fit all.
- Differentiation provides all students with access to all curriculum.
- What Is Differentiation?
- A teacher's response to learner needs
- The recognition of students' varying background knowledge and preferences
- Instruction that appeals to students' differences
- Differentiation Strategies

All strategies are aligned with instructional goals and objectives.

Types:

- Tiered Assignments and Products
- Compacting
- Independent Study
- Interest Centers /Groups
- Flexible Grouping
- Multiple Levels of Questions

- Learning Contracts
- Choice Boards
- Assessment in the Differentiated Classroom
- Ongoing
- Instruction-dependent
- Student-dependent
- Informative for continued instruction
- Rubistar <http://rubistar.4teachers.org/index.php>
- Tips for Implementing Differentiated Instruction: Your Classroom
- Start slowly.
- Organize your classroom space.
- Accommodations and Modifications
- Classroom
- Materials
- Instruction
- Curriculum
- Homework
- Evaluation
- Grading
- Ten Commandments

1. As little as necessary
2. Choose according to strengths
3. Must save you time
4. Implement long enough

5. One at a time

- Effective Differentiation Examples
- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Where Do I Go From Here?
Resources
- Listservs: mstorm@air.org
- Assessment:
 - Curriculum-based measurement

www.studentprogress.org

- National Center on Accessing the General Curriculum (NCAC):
www.cast.org/ncac/
- Access Center:
www.k8accesscenter.org