

How to Use Universal Design to Create Inclusive Classrooms

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Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is a set of principals for curriculum development that aims to provide all students an equal opportunity to learn. It can be used by educators at any grade level or subject area. According to the [National Center on Universal Design for Learning](#), "UDL provides a blueprint for creating instructional goals, methods, materials, and assessments that work for everyone—not a single, one-size-fits-all solution, but rather flexible approaches that can be customized and adjusted for individual needs."

Here are five ways UDL can be leveraged to create an inclusive classroom:

1. Use Varied Strategies to Present Content

The first principle of UDL invites teachers to use "multiple means of representation

2. Invite Students to Show What They Know in Varied Ways

As the second principle of UDL calls teachers to use "multiple means of action and expression," we ask, "How do you allow students to show understanding?"

3. Motivate Students By Getting to Know What They Care About

The third principle of UDL encourages teacher to use "multiple means of engagement" which can require some creativity and genuine connection to students.

4. Reflect Diversity in Teachings

No matter how homogeneous or diverse a classroom may be, every student benefits when inclusion and diversity is a priority.

5. Support Fellow Teachers in Addressing Social Justice Issues

Grappling with issues such as bias, inequality, conflict and social justice can be difficult for teachers. Connecting with other teachers about ways to address concerns can help us navigate the topics within our communities.

Source: [eSchool News](#)