

UDL at a glance:

Universal Design for learning (UDL), is an approach to learning that offers equal learning opportunities to all the diverse learners in a class. The UDL framework can be used to create instructional goals, assessments, methods, and materials for all the diverse learners. This is a challenge faced by all teachers and the UDL framework can help them create a curriculum that will solve this problem. To begin with, the teacher needs to have a clear learning goal in mind. Next, she must think about the barriers that prevent students from understanding the lesson. Finally, the teacher should apply the three UDL principles to help create her lessons: First is *representation*; the teacher should explain and show the material to the students in various ways. Second, is *action and expression*; the teacher should allow the students to display what they know in different ways. Lastly, is *engagement*; it is so important to provide the students with opportunities to do things that they find exciting and engaging. In this way, all of the diverse learners in the classroom will be able to learn, grasp the material, and will surely succeed!

UDL lesson:

I chose to analyze the Life Cycle of Butterflies, UDL lesson plan:

Representation: The teacher introduced and engaged the students in this new lesson, in various ways. She read them a book, led a brainstorming and class discussion, and had the students draw what they thought the life cycle of a butterfly looks like.

Action and Expression: The students were given a choice to work alone or with a partner, to find something new or interesting about butterflies. They were able to choose how they wanted to present their findings.

Engagement: The students were able to choose 2/4 centers that interested them, to demonstrate and describe the life cycle of a butterfly!