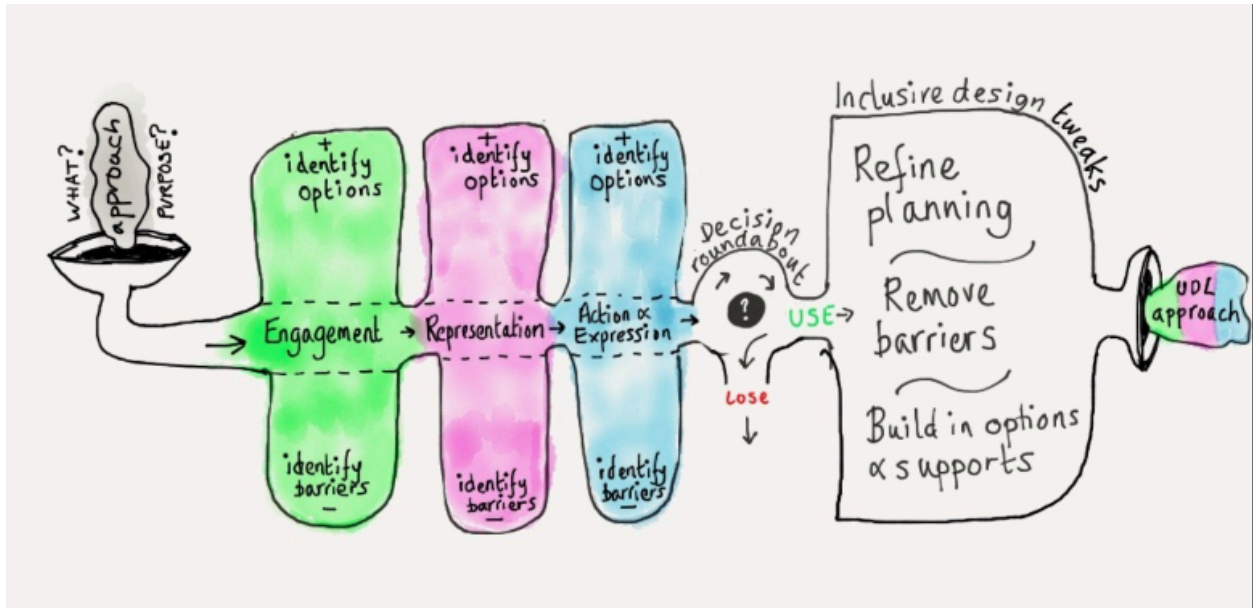


Universal Design for Learning (UDL)

UDL is at the heart of our MTSS work. In simple terms UDL done right increases access and opportunity around the core curriculum for all students. UDL also builds empowerment by putting students in charge of their learning.

- UDL is self-directed option and opportunity that is proactively baked into curriculum and activities (choice & voice). UDL engages the student in making learning decisions.
- UDL is about student needs you are aware of as well as needs that are unknown and evolving.
- UDL is not another term for differentiation- differentiation is about tailoring instruction and resources to the individual. UDL is about providing choices that allow **ALL** learners to access and engage with the curriculum. Food comparison- think of UDL as a buffet, NOT a specific set of complex dishes. (Katie Novak)
- UDL has benefits that evolve- curb cuts were originally put in for wheelchair access to sidewalks. However, they have proven helpful to delivery workers, with baby strollers, w/ bicycles, etc.
- UDL is based upon brain science
- UDL is about “CHOICE” & “VOICE”
- Self-awareness & self-direction are catalyzed by UDL
- UDL anticipates and accommodates the variability in learners
- UDL is about Firm goals and Flexible means
- Start with key questions, targets, standards based outcomes
- Self-differentiate and self-direct.



UDL Science Lesson Plans

<http://lessonbuilder.cast.org/explore.php>

The UDL project K-5 Math UDL Lessons

<https://www.theudlproject.com/math-k-5.html>

UDL Interactive Classroom- Take a tour

<https://www.thinglink.com/video/1464689873704189954>

CAST UDL LESSONS- borrow, build, etc. (free account required). Some great examples of content area lessons with and without UDL elements. These tend to bring about aha moments for educators looking to get started with planning UDL based lessons

<http://udlexchange.cast.org/browse.10>

UDL Progression Rubric- Novak Education

https://www.novakeducation.com/hubfs/Resources/UDL_Progression_Rubric.pdf

UDL FlowChart- Novak Education

https://f.hubspotusercontent00.net/hubfs/7288705/Resources/UDL_FlowChart.pdf

UDL Math Guidelines Novak Education

https://www.novakeducation.com/hubfs/UDL%20Math%20Guidelines_Novak%20Education.pdf

UDL & SEL Graphic

https://f.hubspotusercontent00.net/hubfs/7288705/Blog%20Graphics/UDL_SEL_Infographic.pdf

CAST has some great info. on UDL and they started the movement. A great place to get the basics, get a review, or to branch out around UDL

<https://udlguidelines.cast.org/>

Oklahoma Dept. Education UDL

<https://sde.ok.gov/universal-design>

Montgomery County Schools UDL- some useful resources and templates. The “Look For” docs are definitely worth checking out.

<https://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/hlat-tech/udl/udl-guides.aspx>

Understood.org has a great series of straight forward articles on UDL

<https://www.understood.org/articles/en/understanding-universal-design-for-learning>

The UDL in 15min podcast series is hit or miss but it gives you some understanding around what UDL looks like in various classroom settings and how educators shifted their mindset to embrace UDL concepts. I do most of my reading by listening in the car. You can get it on apple and just about any other cast platform.

<https://udlin15minutes.podbean.com/>

=====

WONDER?- UDL is great but what about standardized assessments and metrics that don't necessarily allow for the three key areas of UDL, Engagement, Representation, Action & Expression?

=====

Katie Novak has done a ton of work with UDL and I feel she has a strong sense of the reality of bringing it to life in the classroom. She's written many articles and a few books. She runs a consulting company that is UDL centered.

NOVAK EDUCATION RESOURCES PAGE

<https://www.novakeducation.com/resources>

Katie Novak Keynote UDL

 UDL Implementation: It Takes a Village - Katie Novak, Ed D

<https://www.novakeducation.com>

<https://www.amazon.com/UDL-Now-Teachers-Universal-Classrooms/dp/1930583664>

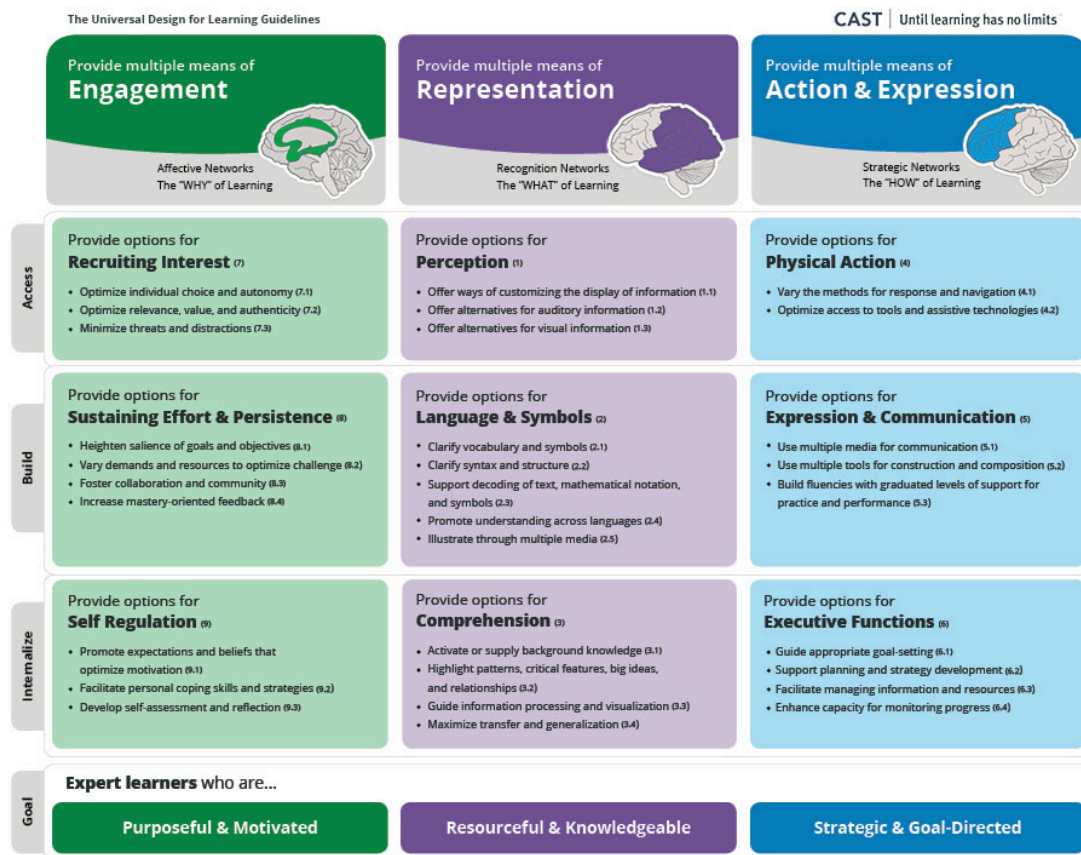
UDL VIDEOS

- ▶ **What is Universal Design for Learning (UDL)?**
- ▶ **Long Story Shortz - Universal Design for Learning**
- ▶ **Seeing UDL in Action in the Classroom**

SLIDE DECKS

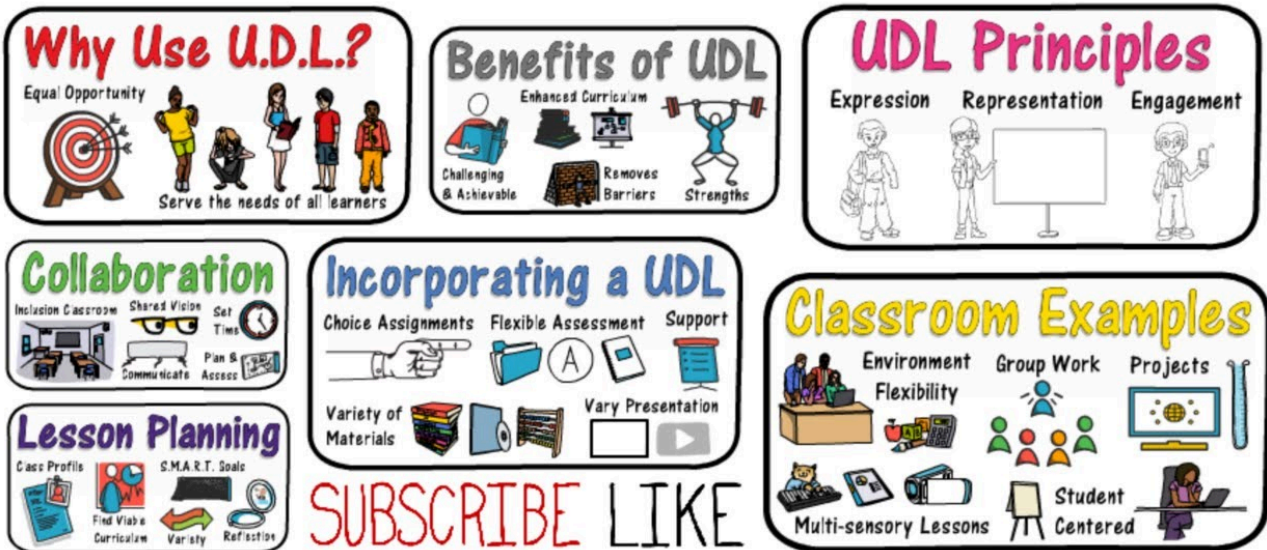
Dynamic Learning Maps UDL basics

<https://www.isbe.net/Documents/udl-module-pres.pdf>





Universal Design for Learning



UDL ACTIVITY

What is your favorite shoe and why?

Then ask them to choose one of the following activities to answer the question:

- Write a short paragraph about your favorite shoe.
- Write an ode to your favorite shoe.
- With colored pencils, pens, or pencils, draw a picture of your favorite shoe.
- Create a list of your favorite shoe stores, styles, and/or shoe brands for someone who is looking to buy you a present. Don't forget to include your size!
- Go online and print off a picture of a shoe you'd love to have (those are my dream Jimmy Choos on the right. Do you think they would ever sponsor a teacher??)

When finished, ask colleagues to share their favorite shoe with the group and note the differences as everyone is collaborating. Ask them to imagine they were all forced to wear the same shoe... how would they feel? As an exemplar, I wrote a previous post about the similarity between UDL and shoes. Read [here](#).

Universal Design for Learning

Affective networks:

THE **WHY** OF LEARNING



How learners get engaged and stay motivated. How they are challenged, excited, or interested. These are affective dimensions.



Stimulate interest and motivation for learning

Recognition networks:

THE **WHAT** OF LEARNING



How we gather facts and categorize what we see, hear, and read. Identifying letters, words, or an author's style are recognition tasks.



Present information and content in different ways

Strategic networks:

THE **HOW** OF LEARNING



Planning and performing tasks. How we organize and express our ideas. Writing an essay or solving a math problem are strategic tasks.



Differentiate the ways that students can express what they know

FIG. 4.5. The brain networks ©2013 CAST, INC.