

I'm not a bot

































[illegible]



multidisciplinary instruction a step further, using it to synthesize information and viewpoints from a variety of disciplines to tackle issues and problems. Imagine a group of students who want to come up with ways to improve multicultural relations at their school. They might approach the topic by researching statistical information about the school population, learning more about the various cultures and their history, and talking with students, teachers, and more. Then, they use the information they've uncovered to present possible solutions. Differentiated instruction means tailoring your teaching so all students, regardless of their ability, can learn the classroom material. Teachers can customize the content, process, product, and learning environment to help all students succeed. There are lots of differentiated instructional strategies to help educators accommodate various learning styles, backgrounds, and more. Learn more: What Is Differentiated Instruction? Culturally responsive teaching is based on the understanding that we learn best when we can connect with the material. For culturally responsive teachers, that means weaving their students' various experiences, customs, communication styles, and perspectives throughout the learning process. Learn more: What Is Culturally Responsive Teaching? Response to Intervention, or RTI, is a way to identify and support students who need extra academic or behavioral help to succeed in school. It's a tiered approach with various "levels" students move through depending on how much support they need. Learn more: What Is Response to Intervention? Inquiry-based learning means tailoring your curriculum to what your students are interested in rather than having a set agenda that you can't veer from—it means letting children's curiosity take the lead and then guiding that interest to explore, research, and reflect upon their own learning. Learn more: What Is Inquiry-Based Learning? Growth mindset is key for learners. They must be open to new ideas and processes and believe they can learn anything with enough effort. It sounds simplistic, but when students really embrace the concept, it can be a real game-changer. Teachers can encourage a growth mindset by using instructional strategies that allow students to learn from their mistakes, rather than punishing them for those mistakes. Learn more: Growth Mindset vs. Fixed Mindset and 25 Growth Mindset Activities This strategy combines face-to-face classroom learning with online learning, in a mix of self-paced independent learning and direct instruction. It's incredibly common in today's schools, where most students spend at least part of their day completing self-paced lessons and activities via online technology. Students may also complete their online instructional time at home. This fancy term really just describes strategies that allow each student to work at their own pace using a flexible schedule. This method became a necessity during the days of COVID lockdowns, as families did their best to let multiple children share one device. All students in an asynchronous class setting learn the same material using the same activities, but do so on their own timetable. Learn more: Synchronous vs. Asynchronous Learning Essential questions are the big-picture questions that inspire inquiry and discussion. Teachers give students a list of several essential questions to consider as they begin a unit or topic. As they dive deeper into the information, teachers ask more specific essential questions to help kids make connections to the "essential" points of a text or subject. Learn more: Questions That Set a Purpose for Reading When it comes to choosing instructional strategies, there are several things to consider: Learning objectives: What will students be able to do as a result of this lesson or activity? If you are teaching specific skills or detailed information, a direct approach may be best. When you want students to develop their own methods of understanding, consider experiential learning. To encourage critical thinking skills, try indirect or interactive instruction. Assessments: How will you be measuring whether students have met the learning objectives? The strategies you use should prepare them to succeed. For instance, if you're teaching spelling, direct instruction is often the best method, since drill-and-practice simulates the experience of taking a spelling test. Learning styles: What types of learners do you need to accommodate? Most classrooms (and most students) respond best to a mix of instructional strategies. Those who have difficulty speaking in class might not benefit as much from interactive learning, and students who have trouble staying on task might struggle with independent learning. Learning environment: Every classroom looks different, and the environment can vary day by day. Perhaps it's testing week for other grades in your school, so you need to keep things quieter in your classroom. This probably isn't the time for experiments or lots of loud discussions. Some activities simply aren't practical indoors, and the weather might not allow you to take learning outside.