



UDL 101:

Overview and Classroom Application



Kentucky Department of
EDUCATION

What is UDL?

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is a way to present information in multiple formats, allow students to demonstrate knowledge in a method of choice and offer high-interest options that engage students.



Three principles:

Engagement

Representation

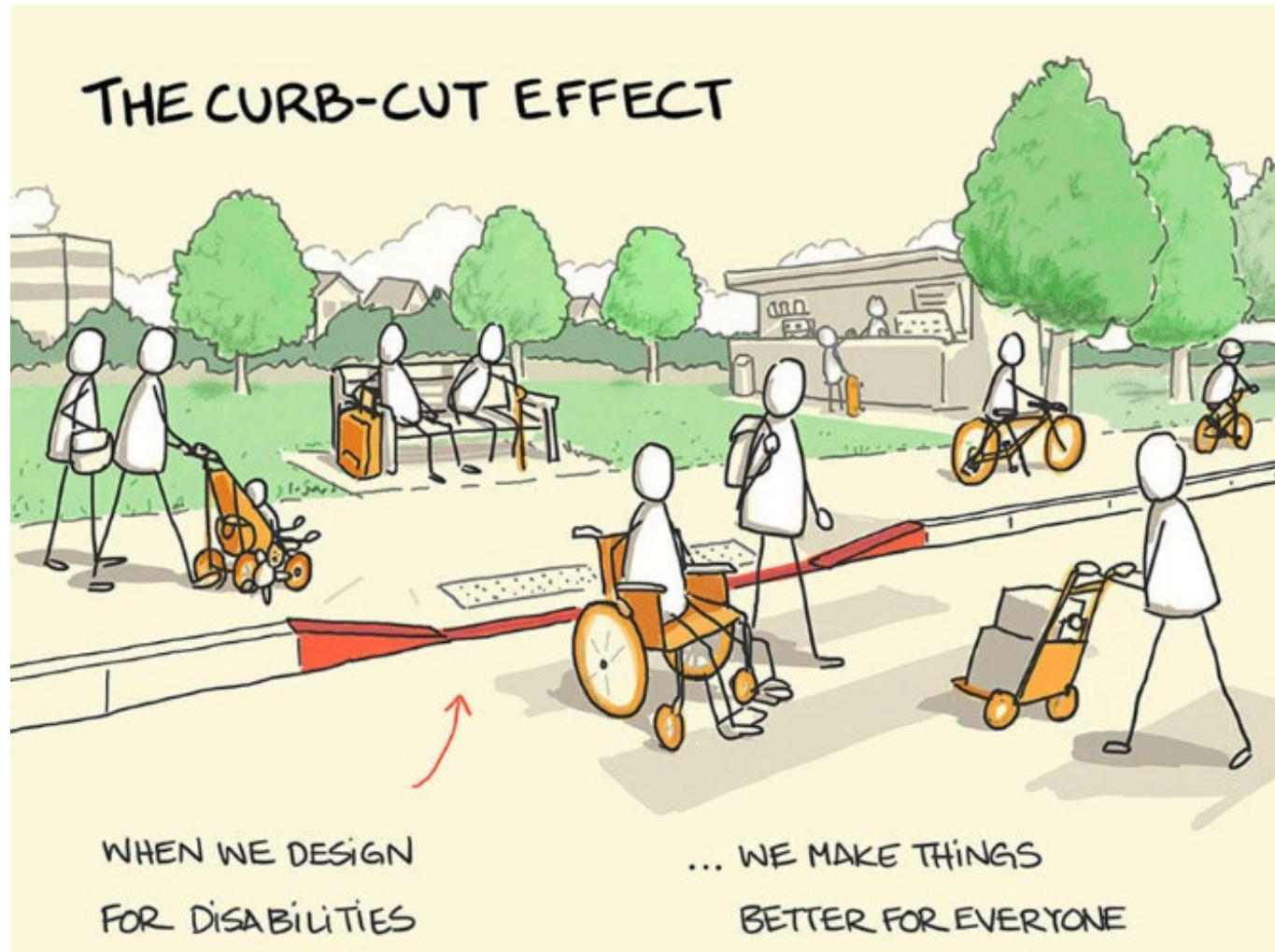
Action and Expression

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

UDL in the Real World







Source: <https://dceg.cancer.gov/about/diversity-inclusion/inclusivity-minute/2021/curb-cut-effect>, <https://sketchplanations.com/the-curb-cut-effect>

Isn't this just differentiated instruction (DI)?

No. While both are student-centric and help students achieve success, they are different.

UDL = universal, inclusive education

Whole group

ANTICIPATE

DI = different ways of learning

Individual

RESPOND

Inclusive classrooms are proactive, with teachers who design lessons using the principles of UDL. Then, using data, the teacher is responsive to differentiate instruction.

UDL	BOTH	DI
Focused on student-centered learning experiences that are pro-actively designed so there are options that are accessible for every learner.	The standards and expectations are the same for all learners.	A responsive practice where adjustments are made based on the individual needs of the students.
The goal is to remove the barriers to learning so students can achieve optimum knowledge and become expert learners.	There is flexibility in lesson design and student groupings.	Oftentimes, differentiation is done after the data is collected and trends are noticed.
Used to design flexible goals, methods, materials and assessments by keeping in view diverse learner needs from the very beginning.	Individual learning strengths and limitations are considered in planning.	The goal is to provide a responsive and optimal learning environment for individuals/groups of learners.
Provides multiple means of engagement, representation and action and expression to all learners from the start.	A wide variety of tools and technology are used to assist student learning.	Provides targeted strategies that are teacher-directed as teachers choose which strategies students receive.
Students are encouraged to self-differentiate and choose the best path for themselves.	Supports and scaffolding are both integral in lesson design.	Blank cell

Source: <https://www.novakeducation.com/blog/udl-vs-differentiated-instruction-a-new-perspective/>

Why use UDL?



Learner
focused



Access to the
curriculum



Strengths-
based learning

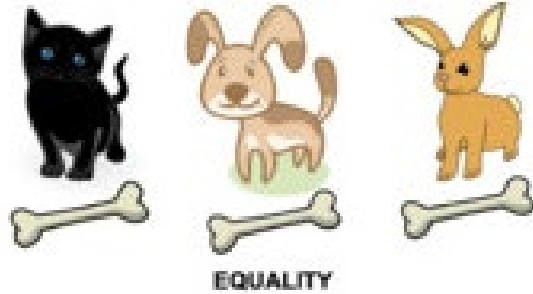


Reduces
stigma

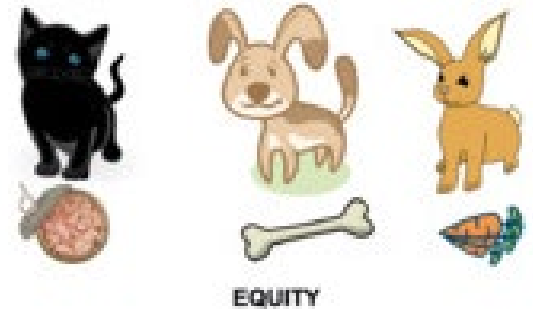


Equal vs Fair

Equal is everyone getting the same thing.



Fair is everyone getting what they need to be successful.



If things are equal, that does not necessarily translate to them being fair.

With UDL, fairness is built in – it's part of the process from the start and removes the barriers surrounding the students.

Source: [Woodstown-Pilesgrove Regional School District](#), New Jersey

How to use UDL

- Most teachers are already using aspects of UDL by providing choices for students. But UDL goes beyond that. Remember, the goal is to remove the barriers surrounding students.
 - Captions
 - Alternate text and verbal descriptions
 - Color contrast
 - Large Sans Serif style font
 - Serif
 - Sans Serif

How does UDL look in the classroom?



[University of Kentucky
Sim Lab Full Video](#)



UDL in the Video

Hands on
(previous day)

“I can” statement

Showing the
visual

Gesture

Wait time

Review/Summary

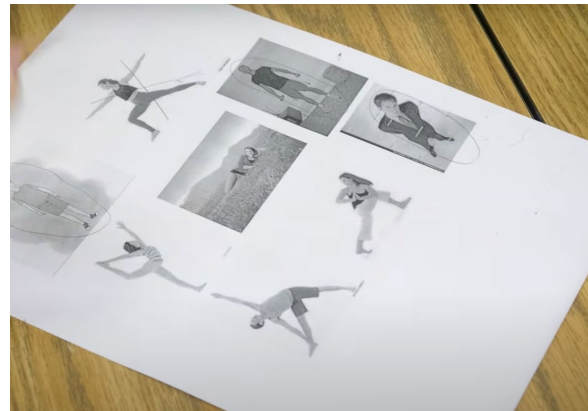
Feedback as the
students work



Take action!

Making Math Accessible to All Students

Source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9h0u957rr6Q>



SCAN ME



SCAN ME

A Universal Design for Learning Approach to Lesson Planning for Special Education

Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDef6fmMS_U



Next Time...

Three principles of UDL

AFFECTIVE NETWORKS:
THE **WHY** OF LEARNING



Engagement

For purposeful, motivated learners, stimulate interest and motivation for learning.

RECOGNITION NETWORKS:
THE **WHAT** OF LEARNING



Representation

For resourceful, knowledgeable learners, present information and content in different ways.

STRATEGIC NETWORKS:
THE **HOW** OF LEARNING



Action & Expression

For strategic, goal-directed learners, differentiate the ways that students can express what they know.

Source: cast.org

Additional Resources

- [KDE's Instructional Resources webpage](#) (scroll down)
- [The UDL Guidelines from CAST](#)
- [Universal Design for Learning Guidelines graphic](#)

Questions?

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