

# **Professional Development Activity Handout**

### **Unfamiliar Placemat: Differentiated Instruction**

Differentiated instruction (DI) is an approach whereby teachers	"When a teacher tries to,
	chances are that of the kids already know
o maximize the learning of	it,of the kids will get it, and the
students; athat teachers can use to	remaining won't. So of the
a variety of	children are" – Lillian Katz

How does DI differ from traditional instruction?			
Traditional	Differentiated Instruction		
Instruction is teacher-centered	Instruction is		
Instruction is targets middle achievers	Instruction		
All students assigned the same task	Teachers		
"Fair" means every student works on the same task	"Fair" means		
Summative assessments predominate	In addition to summative assessments, teachers		



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Type of Assessment	Purpose of the Assessment	Because student needs change frequently, teachers should
Before a lesson or unit	<ul> <li>To assess students' skills, and understanding.</li> <li>To determine students'</li> <li>To ascertain students'</li> <li>To inform teachers' instructional practices or strategies.</li> <li>To help teachers assign</li> </ul>	be familiar with both ongoing assessments and flexible grouping.  Ongoing Assessment – Key Points  Teachers can use assessments,, and a unit.  Teachers use that information to
During a lesson or unit	<ul> <li>To determine what the students</li> <li>To determine students'</li> <li>To inform teachers of needed instructional adjustments.</li> <li>To help teachers design</li> <li>To help teachers assign students to</li> </ul>	and to meet  students' shifting needs. By using more than one type of assessment, teachers can get a better understanding of or for the group of students in the classroom.
After a lesson or unit	To determine what the students  To aid teachers in  To assist teachers infor the following year.	Flexible Grouping - Key Points  Homogeneous grouping = grouping students with  Heterogeneous grouping = grouping students  with or
<b>TIP:</b> Teachers should	scheduling regular	Group membership is or
esting days, but rather s	hould students	, changing to meet the of the
engaging, and focused	on the key concepts and skills introduced in the lesson or unit and	sks assigned to students that are interesting, challenging, d that are reflective of the students' respective skill level.



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Before they differentiate instruction, teachers must first their students in three ways:  = a student's knowledge and skill level regarding given content  = topics, skills, or activities that pique a student's curiosity or inspire him or her  = a student's preferred method of learning new information or skills and environmental factors that influence a student's learning	What are two ways teachers can determine a student's Level of readiness?  1. 2. Interests?  1. 2. Learning profile?  1. 2.
Learning occurs when a student is asked to complete a task that is just beyon of of	d what he or she can do independently—a task in the student's
In her interview, Dr. Carol Ann Tomlinson shares that effective differentiation is (circle one)	Additional Notes:
Very natural for students with exceptionalities because DI promotes doing things in different ways, including ways that might be accessible to those students.	
Apt to leave out students with exceptionalities because DI targets only the middle-level students.	



