

Looking at Student Work Together

Key Question: How can you learn to modify assignments and still have students achieve?

Directions: Review these four ways to differentiate for diverse learners and then review a sample of student work to see if modification would have helped the students achieve.

1. Find out what students know.

This is also an opportunity to find out who exceeds standards in the classroom on this topic, so more advanced work can be given to enrich students' learning.

2. Use varied reading levels and audio devices to teach content.

Vary expectations for beginning learners by limiting vocabulary or adding enrichment words.

3. Vary the instructional method to meet diverse learning needs.

Using partners and small groups, or a choice of process or product assignments, graphic organizers, and varied strategies keep students engaged as well as responsive to various learning needs.

4. Offer a variety of ways to show they have learned the content.

Quizzes and tests are only one way to demonstrate learning. Success in school may make the difference in students staying in school.

Bring several samples of only *one* student's work to a meeting with your mentor. Look at the work and share what you see. What "story" can be told from looking at this student's work? Share your insights with your mentor.

What does this work say about this student?	What is the evidence for that statement?	What is the next learning step for this student? How could the work be modified for this student based on the ideas on this page?