

Differentiating for Gifted, Creative, and Talented Students

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Areas of Differentiation

- Content – what students are learning
- Process – how the content is taught
- Product – what students are producing
- Learning Environment – the climate or tone of the classroom



Variety of Methods

Use a variety of methods to convey key concepts of what is being taught.



Variety of Methods

Nearpod is a web-based technology that allows teachers to create a variety of formative assessments and deliver content directly to a students' device to be viewed by an entire class or assigned individually to students.

Example: Nearpod





In-depth curriculum

Verify the curriculum being taught is in-depth regarding the content being presented.

In-depth curriculum

According to byrdseed.com the Depth and Complexity icons are tools that will take students of any age deeper into a study of any content area.

Example: Depth & Complexity icons





Byrdseed

- <https://www.byrdseed.com/introducing-depth-and-complexity/>
- **Byrdseed is ran by Ian Byrd.**
- **Ian**
 - **gifted student himself**
 - **taught 6th graded gifted classes**
 - **majored in Computer Science**



Critical Thinking

Differentiate by asking students to think critically about the content.

Critical Thinking

Point of view is a type of analysis that asks students to read and take into account the author's stance on the content being presented.

Example: Point of View





Point of View

- Infohio.org (search Point of View)
- Point of view resource gives points and counter-points to look at a topic from different points of view.
- Topics have a resource titled **Guide to Critical Analysis**



Creative Thinking

Provide opportunities for students to think creatively.

Creative Thinking

Come up with a
new way to
solve a problem.

Example: Make
Something New or
Improved





Vary Resource Materials

Vary the process for teaching
by using different resource
materials.



Vary Resource Materials

Use different tools to teach the content and create interest.





Tiered Activities

The process of providing tiered activities by allowing students to do different activities some more shallow and others deeper.

Tiered Activities

Tiered lesson planning may include a chart that has entry level to challenging activities listed to teach a standard.

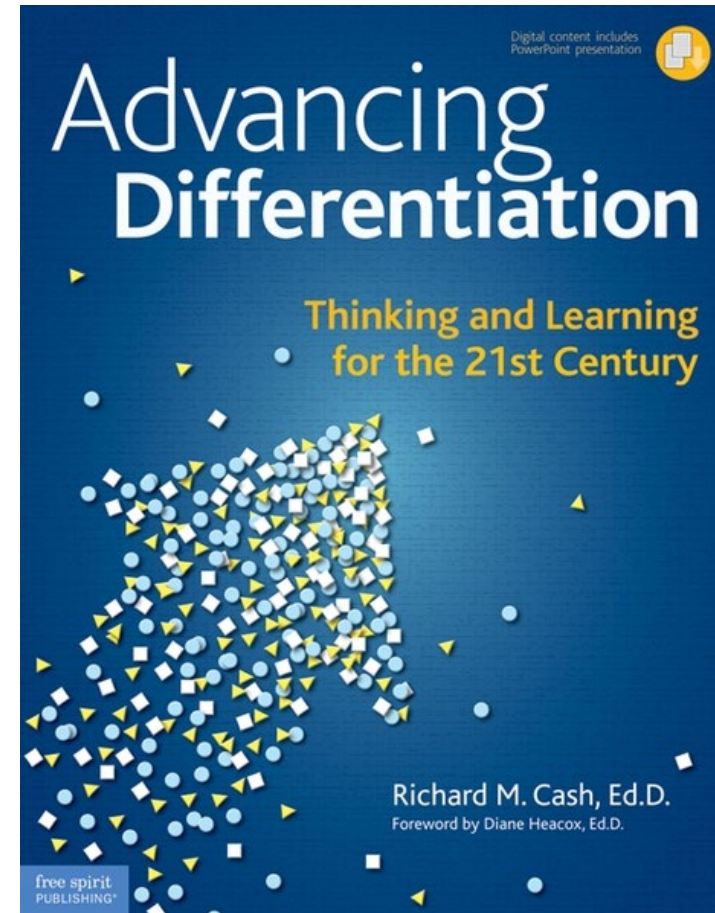
Example: Tiered Lesson Planning



Advancing Differentiation

Thinking and Learning for the 21st century

- **Book**
- **By Richard M. Cash, Ed.D.**
- **Provides a lot of reproducibles & checklists**





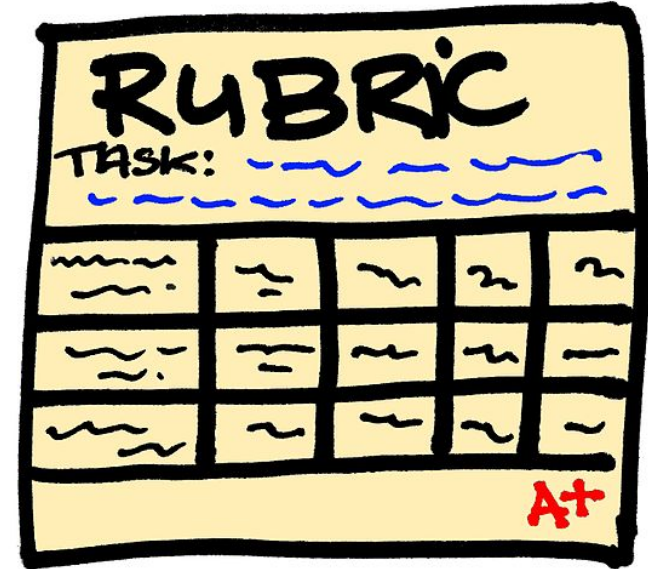
Allow Students to Develop Products

Work with students to develop the product they will submit to show their content knowledge.

Allow Students to Develop Products

Sit with the students and allow them to assist in outlining how a final project should look to give them ownership in demonstrating their content knowledge.

Example:
Student-designed
Rubric





Schrockguide

- <https://www.schrockguide.net/assessment-and-rubrics.html>
- **Schrockguide is ran by Kathy Schrock**
- **The page with rubric resources provides ideas you can use when working with students and creating rubrics to assess their work.**



Vary Assessment

Vary the methods of assessment to gauge students' understanding.



Vary Assessment

Ask students to complete a project, experiment, or create a video as an assessment of their content knowledge.

Example: Student Projects





Digital Breakout

- <https://sites.google.com/site/digitalbreakouttemplate/home>
- **Create a digital breakout game to assess students or teach content in a different way**



Options for Student Seating

Provide options in the learning environment including independent and group work areas.

Options for Student Seating

Use of café tables allow students to work in small groups while also having independent work space in the room.

Example: Use café tables





Classroom Décor

Provide décor including posters that appeal to different interests or educational units.

Classroom Décor

Use magnetic frame holders to hang movie posters that align with a current topic.

Example: Movie Posters



Works Cited

- Byrd, I. (n.d.). Everything You Need to Know About Depth and Complexity Icons. Retrieved March 28, 2020, from <https://www.byrdseed.com/introducing-depth-and-complexity/>
- Cash, R. M. (2017). *Advancing differentiation: thinking and learning for the 21st century*. Minneapolis, MN: Free Spirit Publishing.
- Schrock, K. (n.d.). Assessment and Rubrics. Retrieved from <https://www.schrockguide.net/assessment-and-rubrics.html>
- Sears, Candace. (2017). *Guiding Gifted Learners: Teacher Reflection Guide 2 of 5*. Dayton, OH: Montgomery County Educational Service Center
- Sears, Candace. (2017). *Guiding Gifted Learners: Teacher Reflection Guide 3 of 5*. Dayton, OH: Montgomery County Educational Service Center
- Winebrenner, S., & Brulles, D. (2018). *Teaching gifted kids in today's classroom: strategies and techniques every teacher can use*. Minneapolis, MN: Free Spirit Publishing.

Strategies/Examples

- Variety of Methods
 - Nearpod
- In-depth curriculum
 - Depth & Complexity Icons
- Critical Thinking
 - Point-of-view
- Creative Thinking
 - Develop something new
- Vary Resources
 - Technology
- Tiered Activities
 - Tiered Lesson Plan Chart
- Students develop products
 - Student-created rubrics
- Vary assessment
 - Projects
- Optional Seating
 - Café tables
- Classroom Décor
 - Movie posters on magnetic hangers

Resources

1. Nearpod.com

2. Byrdseed.com

<https://www.byrdseed.com/category/differentiating/depth-and-complexity-icons/>

3. Kathy's Schrock's Guide to Everything

<https://www.schrockguide.net/assessment-and-rubrics.html>

4. Infohio.org

Point of view reference center

5. Books

- *Advancing differentiation: thinking and learning for the 21st century* -Cash
- *Teaching gifted kids in today's classroom: strategies and techniques every teacher can use* - Winebrenner