

UDL Lesson Planning Toolkit

UDL Lesson Planning Toolkit Overview

This toolkit is designed to support educators in **reflecting on, assessing, adapting, and creating** lesson plans through the lens of **Universal Design for Learning (UDL)**. Whether you're just beginning or looking to deepen your UDL practice, these tools offer flexible entry points and a clear structure to help make learning more **accessible, inclusive, and engaging** for all students. Each tool aligns with the **UDL Guidelines** and builds your understanding of how every component of a lesson can offer meaningful opportunities for all students to participate and access the curriculum. You can use these resources in the way that best fits your needs—whether you're evaluating or reflecting on existing lessons or designing lessons from scratch. There's no one "right" place to start; **every step you take supports more inclusive and effective teaching.**

1. [UDL Lesson Planning Guide](#)

This tool is designed to help you reflect on UDL-aligned strategies within an existing lesson plan. It guides you through each component of a lesson, offering prompts for reflection and ideas for creating more inclusive practices. It also encourages you to consider the **level of UDL implementation** present in the lesson, emphasizing that all levels—foundational, enhanced or transformative—have value.

Use this when: You're reviewing a pre-existing lesson and want to identify its current level of UDL implementation, reflect on your practice, and explore ways to add depth as you're ready.

2. [UDL Lesson Planning Rubric](#)

This tool provides a rubric-based assessment for evaluating a lesson plan's alignment with UDL principles. While the UDL Lesson Planning Guide supports reflective thinking, this tool focuses more directly on identifying where and how UDL strategies are present—or could be added—in a lesson.

Use this when: You want to assess a lesson you've written or evaluate a curriculum-based lesson to determine its level of UDL implementation and identify opportunities for improvement.

3. [UDL Connected Considerations](#)

This resource breaks down each component of the lesson planning process and highlights the **specific UDL Guidelines** that connect to those components. It acts as a crosswalk between the structure of a lesson and the principles of UDL.

Use this when: You want a quick reference to see how the elements of your lesson planning align with the UDL Guidelines, especially when adapting or revising a lesson.

4. [UDL Lesson Planning Steps and Descriptions](#)

This document provides detailed descriptions of each step in the lesson planning process and explains the **research and rationale** behind why each step is important for building access and engagement for all learners.

Use this when: You're planning a new lesson and want to better understand the "why" behind each step before beginning the design process.

5. [UDL Lesson Planning Template](#)

This blank template walks you through the process of designing a lesson from scratch using UDL principles. Built-in prompts help ensure you're planning for **multiple means of engagement, representation, and action/expression**, so all students can access learning.

Use this when: You're designing a new lesson or collaborating with colleagues to create a UDL-aligned plan from the ground up.