

Differentiation in the Gen Ed Classroom

How do we
support **OUR**
Kids?



Differentiation



At its most basic level, differentiation consists of the efforts of teachers to respond to variance among learners in the classroom. Whenever a teacher reaches out to an individual or small group to vary his or her teaching in order to create the best learning experience possible, that teacher is differentiating instruction. (readingrockets.org, 2024)

3...2...1 Grounding



What's My Role?
Gen Ed vs. SPED

OUR Kids



Ways to Differentiate

- Content
- Process
- Products
- Environment

1 Content

what the student needs to learn or how the student will get access to the information.

3 Products

culminating projects that ask the student to rehearse, apply, and extend what he or she has learned in a unit.

activities in which the student engages in order to make sense of or master the content.

2 Process

the way the classroom works and feels

4 Environment



Let's

Discuss!

Around the room are 4 posters with each of these types of ways to differentiate. Please take 8-10 minutes and walk around the room and write examples of the way you could differentiate in that category.

Feel free to write responses to others ideas as well.



Now What?
Other things to consider:

Ways to support

Work Systems

A work system is an organizational system that gives a student information about what is expected when he/ she arrives at a classroom location.

IEP Goals & Accommodations

Special Education Teachers should give you a copy of these at the beginning of the year.

Use the information in these to help with your differentiation and task assignments within the classroom setting.

Ways to support

**Work
Collaboratively**

OUR KIDS

Remember they are OUR kids.

Gen Ed Teacher is the Content Specialist and SPED is the intervention specialist.

Our kids need us to work together to provide a high quality education.



3...2...1
Exit Ticket

Ways to Modify
and Adapt
Resource



Questions?

Resources

- Carol Ann Tomlinson. (n.d.). What is differentiated instruction?. Reading Rockets. <https://www.readingrockets.org/topics/differentiated-instruction/articles/what-differentiated-instruction>
- Differentiated instruction: Examples & classroom strategies. Resilient Educator. (2022, November 9). <https://resilienteducator.com/classroom-resources/examples-of-differentiated-instruction/>
- Westman, L. (2025, February 13). Yes, differentiation is hard. so, let's get it right. (opinion). Education Week. <https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/opinion-yes-differentiation-is-hard-so-lets-get-it-right/2016/08>
- Conklin, W. (2018). Differentiating the curriculum for gifted learners. Shell Education.