Creating Lesson Plans for All Learners: Differentiated Instruction in Action

*Please note that this is a podcast (audio only), so the PowerPoint must be downloaded separately and used manually.*

**Summary of Presentation**
This webinar will assist participants in preparing lesson plans to meet the needs of diverse learners. The presenter discusses the rationale and methods for differentiating instruction. Participants will learn the principles of universal design, as well as review the steps in preparing lessons. One section of the presentation focuses on optimizing learning through classroom centers. Presenters and participants collaboratively write a lesson plan using differentiated instruction and universal design.

**Speaker Biographies**

**Dr. Laverne Warner** is Professor Emerita of Early Childhood Education at Sam Houston State University (SHSU) in Huntsville, TX. She served as SHSU's Delta Theta Counselor for Kappa Delta Pi for 18 years prior to her retirement in 2005. She still enjoys writing for professional journals.

**Dr. Sharon Lynch** is Professor of Special Education at Sam Houston State University where she teaches courses in inclusion, assessment, and learning for individuals with significant disabilities. She also has experience with research, publications, and presentations in those areas. For over 20 years Dr. Lynch has worked as a special education teacher, speech-language pathologist, educational diagnostician, and consultant in public schools.

**Time of Webcast:** 63 minutes

**Intended Audience:** Undergraduates, Graduate students, Student Teachers, Teachers

**Objectives:**
- Describe the rationale for differentiated instruction and lesson planning
- Describe ways to differentiate instruction
Describe the steps in the lesson planning process

Pre-Questions:
1. What are some of the different learning styles you have encountered in classrooms where you’ve worked?
2. Share some examples of ways to engage and reach all learners.
3. What activities have you been able to or have you planned to differentiate to reach all learners in your classroom?

Questions for Further Exploration:
1. Of the many strategies listed by the presenters, what have you successfully implemented to reach all learners? What has been unsuccessful?
2. What types of classroom centers have you created to extend learning? What changes can you make to your classroom centers to better reach all types of learners?
3. Compare your current lesson plan format to the “Lesson Plan Example with Differentiation for Diverse Learners.” What would you change in your lesson plan to reach diverse learners?

Follow-up: At the next meeting, discuss the success and challenges of reaching diverse learners in your classroom.

Tie to Other KDP Resources:
Articles:

Webcasts:
Differentiate Your K–8 Classroom: Creating Choice Boards and RAFTs. Lew Stonaker.
Differentiated Instruction for Language and Literacy. Deborah Seiglano and Shellie Hipsky.
Differentiation. Adam Moore and Bethany Hamilton-Jones.

Check the KDP website (www.kdp.org) for additional and updated resources.