Universal Design for Learning in the Classroom



May 20, 2019

Universal Design for Learning Guidelines

"The goal of education in the 21st century is not simply the mastery of content knowledge or use of new technologies. It is the mastery of the learning process. Education should turn novice learners into expert learners, who know how to learn strategically, and who, on their own highly individual and flexible ways, are well prepared for a life-time of learning. Universal Design for Learning helps educators meet this goal by providing a framework for understanding how to create curricula that meets the needs of all learners from the start."

Source: National Center of Universal Design for Learning website

Universal Design for Learning: Key Elements

- Acknowledges that each student has his or her own unique learning profile
- Provides framework for increasing access to high quality learning goals for all students from the beginning
- Focuses on identifying and removing existing barriers to learning
- Emphasizes the development of student voice and choice
- Facilitates creativity and independence



Source: CAST (2018). Universal Design for Learning Guidelines version 2.2. Wakefield, MA: Author

udiguidelines.cast.

Internalize

Goal

Build

Access

Provide Multiple Means of Engagement

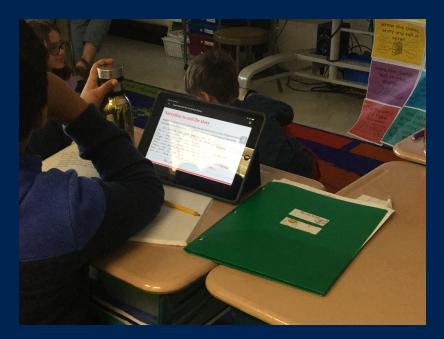
- Develops self-assessment and regulation
- Varies demands and resources to optimize challenge
- Fosters collaboration and community
- Optimizes individual choice and autonomy

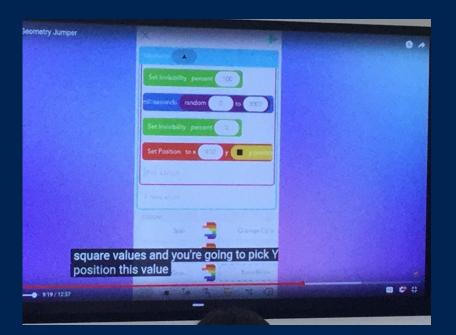




Provide Multiple Means of Representation

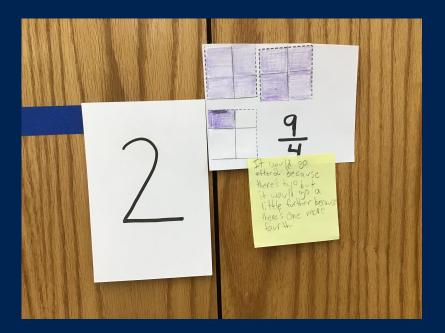
- Offers alternatives for visual information
- Offers alternatives for audio information
- Illustrates through multiple media



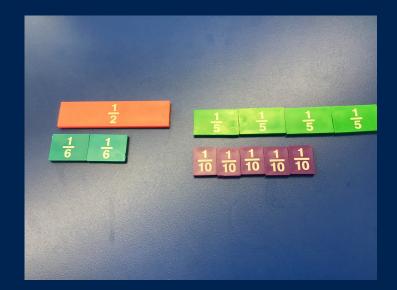


Provide Multiple Means of Action & Expression

- Optimizes access to tools and assistive technology
- Uses multiple tools for construction and composition

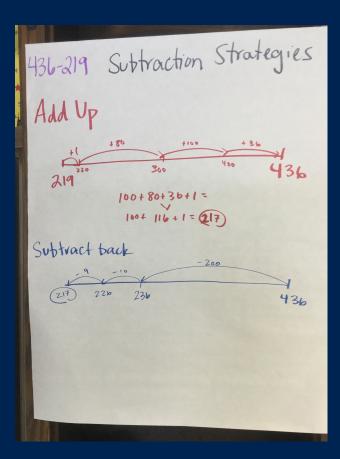






Provide Multiple Means of Action & Expression

- Supports planning and strategy development
- Builds fluencies with graduated levels of support for practice and performance



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Provide Multiple Means Action & Expression

- Use multiple media for communication
- Use multiple tools for construction and composition

PHONES LIMIT TEENS SLEEP When teens use their phone before

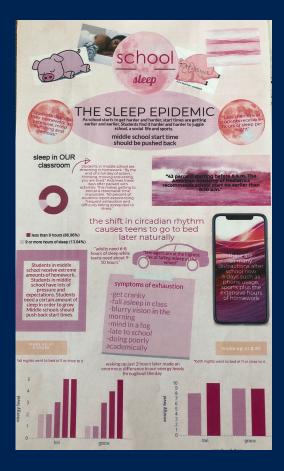
bed it can limit the amount of sleep that they get. "About 72 percent of children ages six to 17 sleep with at least one electronic device in their bedroom, which leads to getting less sleep on school nights compared with other kids, according to their parents." Sleep is so important for growing children and can really impact their performance at school and other activities. The lack of sleep caused by electronic device use before bed is caused by the blue light emitted by the device. The blue light mimics sunlight which confuses and disrupts our circadian rhythms. This messes with the sleep cycle causing the body to fall asleep and wake up later. This lack of sleep can also contribute to mental and physical illnesses. Since sleep is such a crucial necessity for children and teens to thrive, phones and electronic devices should be taken out of the bedroom.

HOW DO PHONES AFFECT SLEEP?

"Spending five or more hours a day online (vs. one hour) upped the risk of sleeping too little more than 50 percent. Spending three hours a day (vs. one hour) upped the risk nearly 20 percent"

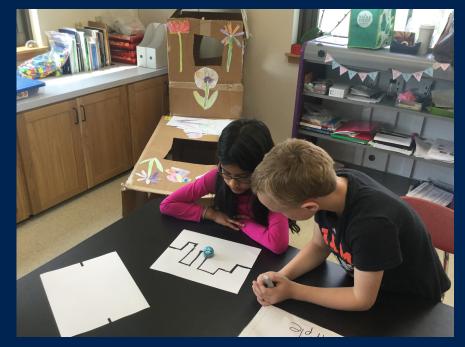
Teens using their phones can negatively impact their mental health. Scientists believe teen depression and phone use at night is linked. "If smartphones cause teens to sleep less, and less sleep leads to depression, sleep deprivation might explain why teen depression increased sharply after 2012 - exactly when smartphones became common, and exactly when sleep deprivation began to increase among teens" (Teens are sleeping less). Depression is a serious illness, which is something that can be prevented with something as simple as putting a phone away. "A longitudinal study of 1,101 Australian high school students aged between 13 and 16 found poor quality sleep associated with late-night texting or calling was linked to a decline in mental health, such as depressed moods and declines in self-esteem and coping ability" (Teenagers sleep quality). Self-esteem is so important for mental health. Also, being able to cope with events is a major life skill that is needed. If phones are causing this not to happen, phones should not be allowed in the bedroom.





Technology and Universal Design for Learning

- •Optimizes access to range of learning tools
- Provides assistive technology options to overcome learning barriers
- Provides multiple platforms to communicate learning and ideas
- Facilitates managing information and resources



Next Steps

- Provide training for all D90 certified staff at June Institute Day
- •Support expansion of UDL practices at the building level during 2019-2020 school year
- •Continue to support students with technology integration
- Align UDL with standards-based learning
- •Support continued alignment of UDL principles to instructional practices
- •Examine inclusion and co-teaching within the UDL framework

