

May 2021 REL Corner: Supporting Student Learning Through Differentiated Instruction

[Learn about REL Appalachia and its work](#), and dive into these resources from across the REL program that support educators in adapting and differentiating instruction to meet learning needs now and post COVID-19.

- [Personalized Instruction to Address COVID-19 Learning Gaps](#). This virtual quick chat from REL Central shares options and supports for personalized instruction to support students affected by learning disruptions. Topics discussed include installing building supports, analyzing data, defining student expectations, and actionable personalized instructional strategies for teachers.
- [Student Success in Mathematics Partnership Meeting](#). This presentation slide deck and accompanying handout from REL Appalachia share evidence-based instructional practices to differentiate supports for K–12 students who have mathematics disabilities and difficulties. Resources include a process for planning high-quality, accessible math lessons and examples of professional development activities for educators.
- [Improving MTSS/RTI Implementation Through Measurement](#). This blog post from REL Appalachia suggests five practices for developing multi-tiered system of support/response to intervention (MTSS/RTI) implementation assessment tools to improve the quality of core instruction for all students and provide targeted interventions for students who need more support.
- [A Pivot to Performance Assessments](#). This blog post from REL Appalachia provides an overview of performance assessments, an alternative to standard assessments that include flexible and engaging options to assess and meet students' needs. The blog post includes a collection of resources based on a partnership with Virginia educators that can be adapted, as well as other resources for ongoing learning to support the implementation of performance assessments locally.

- [What research has been conducted on UDL and literacy?](#) This Ask A REL response from REL Southeast shares research reports and descriptive articles describing strategies and practices to support Universal Design Learning (UDL), a framework for teaching and learning that offers flexibility in student access, engagement, and assessment. The response focuses on literacy and students with developmental disabilities.
- [Special Education and Mental Health: Promising Strategies for Special-Need Students in Inclusion Settings.](#) This Ask A REL response from REL Southwest shares research reports and descriptive articles addressing strategies to support the academic needs of students with low-incidence disabilities in inclusive settings.