UDL Quick Guide

High Incidence Accessible Technology (HIAT)

UDL Digital Storytelling Tips: Sharing UDL Practices and Routines

Creating digital stories about how you provide student choice and variety in learning to reach more learners is an important activity. Taking photos, audio recordings or videos from your classroom and sharing them will help other teachers add practical strategies and tools to their lessons. This will benefit far more teachers and students than you can imagine.

Tell the story with spoken words or text paired with pictures or videos

- Take a few photos and then narrate a PhotoStory.
- Take a few 30 second video clips from class. Add a 30-60 second video of you telling the story of the lesson (e.g. as you video materials or tools you used) or interview a few students.
- Pick story-telling tools you feel comfortable with and stick with them. People will be most impressed by the story itself so just use a a method that works best for you.

Balance no-tech and tech-supported examples

- People want to see both no-tech and technology-supported examples of UDL. Try to provide examples of both.

Keep it short

- A 2-4 minute video gives a glimpse into your classroom, what you did and why it mattered.
- Don't think you need to capture all the action
- Take a few pictures or short video clips of instructional activities, materials or the space in your classroom.
- People like to get a sense of the setting but don't expect this to tell the whole story.
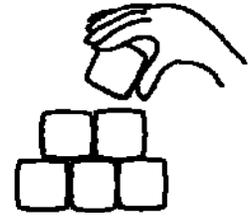
Keep it simple

- Telling a short story about a specific activity is often as powerful as trying to tell the story of an entire lesson. People appreciate both of these types of stories.
- Informal videotaping and pictures are no problem. Mostly, videos or pictures just need to provide a setting for the story. Don't spend too much time on making the focus and composition "just right".
- Don't spend too much time editing as most people just want to get a snap-shop of what happened and why it mattered for student learning and teacher planning.

Share it

- At staff meetings
- On school folders
- On county online curriculum folders and instructional centers
- Submit to HIAT for consideration for the website (student video permissions need to be secured)

Answer the questions most people want to know

Questions to ask students in videos or PhotoStory narrations

- Why did this activity or project help you learn?
- How was this different from how you have done this in the past?
- Why did having a choice help you learn?
- Would you make the same choice the next time?

Questions you could comment on as the educator

- What did you do? How was it different from how the activity or lesson may typically be done.
- How did this different way of doing the lesson or activity help students? Students who may typically struggle? Student who need to be challenged? Why?
- How much more planning time did it take you to do it this way? Was it worth it? Will it take as ling the next time? Will establishing new routines make it easier?
- Be honest about what went well and what was either not worth the time or you would change for next time. This should be "real life" teaching.

Some Digital Storytelling Software (Windows)

- [Microsoft Photo Story](#) (add pictures and narrate to create a movie)
- [Windows Movie Maker](#) (add and edit pictures, videos and narration)