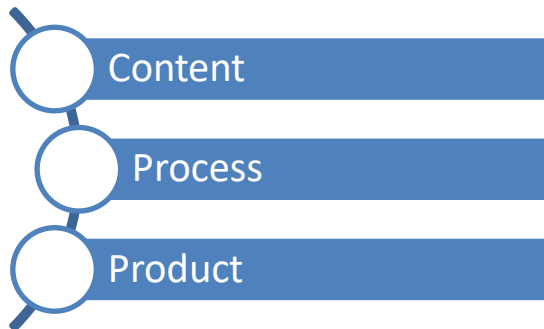


The Importance of Differentiated Instruction

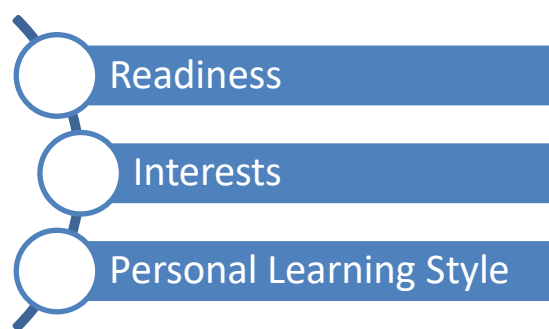


Differentiation is based on Bloom’s Taxonomy and gives our students options to traditional “one size fits all” education. It is a philosophy for effective teaching that involves providing students with a variety of avenues to acquire and demonstrate content. Our differentiated classrooms are responsive to the diverse levels of student needs for both acceleration and remediation. In this environment, all students can be include and feel successful. Clear guidelines, or rubrics, are set out for independent or group work that matches each student’s individual expectations for learning. Differentiation compliments our multi-sensory learning environment and allows for teachers to identify needs to re-teach an idea or to extend the higher order thinking of more advanced learners within subjects.

Teachers can differentiate:



Based on the student’s...



How do our teachers differentiate? They create opportunities that activate VARK learning, offer flexible grouping or pairs, assign balance, structure, and choice, demonstrate evidence of tiered lessons, require students to apply knowledge to real-world situations, encourage the use of creative and higher order thinking skills.

Because our students present with diverse learning styles, abilities, preferences, differentiation is the one approach to teaching that allows us to effectively meet all of their needs. Through differentiation, we can:

- Offer students a greater sense of independence
- Strengthen student focus on the required content
- Allow for immediate application of knowledge
- Increase attention spans and motivation
- Exhibits student's creativity, talents, and abilities
- Emphasize concept reinforcement at various levels

At Pinnacle Academy, differentiation is not an “extra thing to do”, it is **what we do** every day.