

Deeper Learning Lessons



What is Deeper Learning?

Deeper learning is the development and application of a set of lifelong skills that all students can apply to the current standards they are required to learn, curriculum they will be required to learn in college, and work skills needed for careers. Deeper learning extends beyond mastery of the required standards and graduation from high school.

Why Deeper Learning?

Deeper Learning creates an environment that will enable every child to discover and expand his or her unique gifts and talents. The goal of deeper learning is to prepare every child for college, career, and life.

What is a Deeper Learning Lesson?

A Deeper Learning lesson develops one or more of the lifelong skills: collaboration, communication, creativity, critical thinking, and citizenship. Deeper learning lessons incorporate a variety of approaches to meet the individual needs of diverse learners, recognize the value of students working together, and acknowledge students' gifts and talents while working through the required standards.

Questions Teachers Should Consider When Planning a Deeper Learning Lesson:

1. What do I want my students to **learn** and **be able** to do?
2. What **prior knowledge/skills** must students have to be **successful** during this lesson?
 - a. How does this lesson **connect** to yesterday and how will it set them up for success tomorrow?
3. What **strategies** are **embedded** to support critical thinking during this lesson?
4. What are the standards and **depth of knowledge** (cognitive levels) **aligned** with each learning activity in the lesson?
5. What performance based tasks and assessments will I use to **measure** my students' growth?
6. How will I **differentiate** for my students' abilities, interests, and talents?
7. Based on my assessment data, what **alternative strategies/interventions** will I use to target those students who do not **demonstrate** mastery?

In a Deeper Learning environment **STUDENTS** are actively:

- Defining and describing the problem
- Comparing and contrasting
- Classifying
- Sequencing
- Determining Cause and Effect
- Finding and creating analogies
- Developing questions
- Recognizing and describing relationships
- Setting goals and monitoring progress
- Critiquing their work and the work of their peers
- Creating new products
- Solving real world problems independently
- Presenting their work to a wider audience
- Learning cooperatively
- Researching/Reading and writing with a purpose
- Reflecting on their learning and progress