

# Universal Design for Learning (UDL): Review and Applications

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By

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## Background

Librarians

Library services for those with intellectual disability (ID)

Book club – pedagogical techniques

# Book

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## Libraries and Reading



INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY AND THE  
EXTENT OF LIBRARY DIVERSITY

Matthew Conner · Leah Plocharczyk

# Generalization

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Unique  
population

Test of  
pedagogy

Reference  
point for  
normal?



# UDL (History)

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Developed ca. 1984 David Rose, Anne Meyer,  
Harvard educators

Based on issue of disability access



# Curb Cut vs. Ramp







# Inclusion vs. Separation



## Accommodation for Senses

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- Captions
- Inclusive



# Educational System

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UDL

Learning styles

Subject independent

Cognitive modes: visual, auditory,  
kinetic

# Learning Styles (Rose)

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Affect (Why) – The motivation for learning (intrinsic, extrinsic)

Representation (What) – The content of learning (visual, auditory, kinetic)

Strategy (How) – The plan (group, solitary, reflective, impulsive)



# UDL

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Student-centered

Context-  
dependent

Interactive

Group work: each  
student a mini-  
context for the  
other

# Review

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UDL promising but vague with mixed results

Lack of definitions, measurement tools





## Critique (Learning Styles)

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- No evidence
- Lack of theory
- Confusing learning styles with maturity
- Why cater to strongest style at the expense of weaker?



“Cannot please all the people all the time...”

Lack of any teaching direction leads to chaos

- Learning styles expected to unite and differentiate at the same time

Critique (Order)



# Recommendations (Learning styles)

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Multisensory  
instruction as  
opposed to isolation  
of learning styles

“The more  
representations, the  
better the learning”

Visual, audial,  
kinetic

# Recommendations (Organization)

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What goes out must  
come back...

Differences of any  
kind must be  
validated and shown  
how they contribute

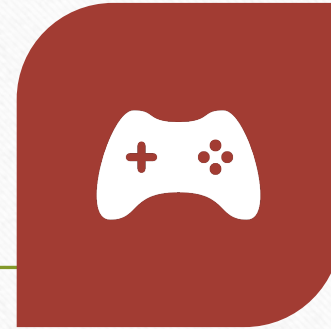




NARRATIVE/STORY



DRAMATIC  
PERFORMANCE



GAME

# Organizing Schema

## Case Study (Miss Mattie Rials)

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- First library program for those with ID
- McComb, MS, site of violence over civil rights
- Award-winning children's librarian 1974

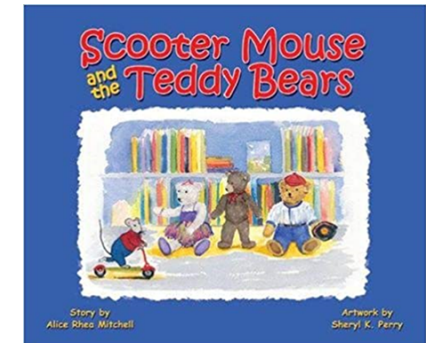
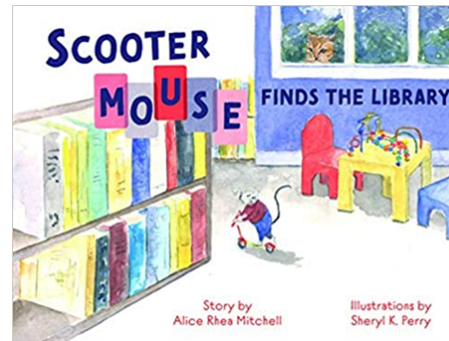




# Miss Mattie

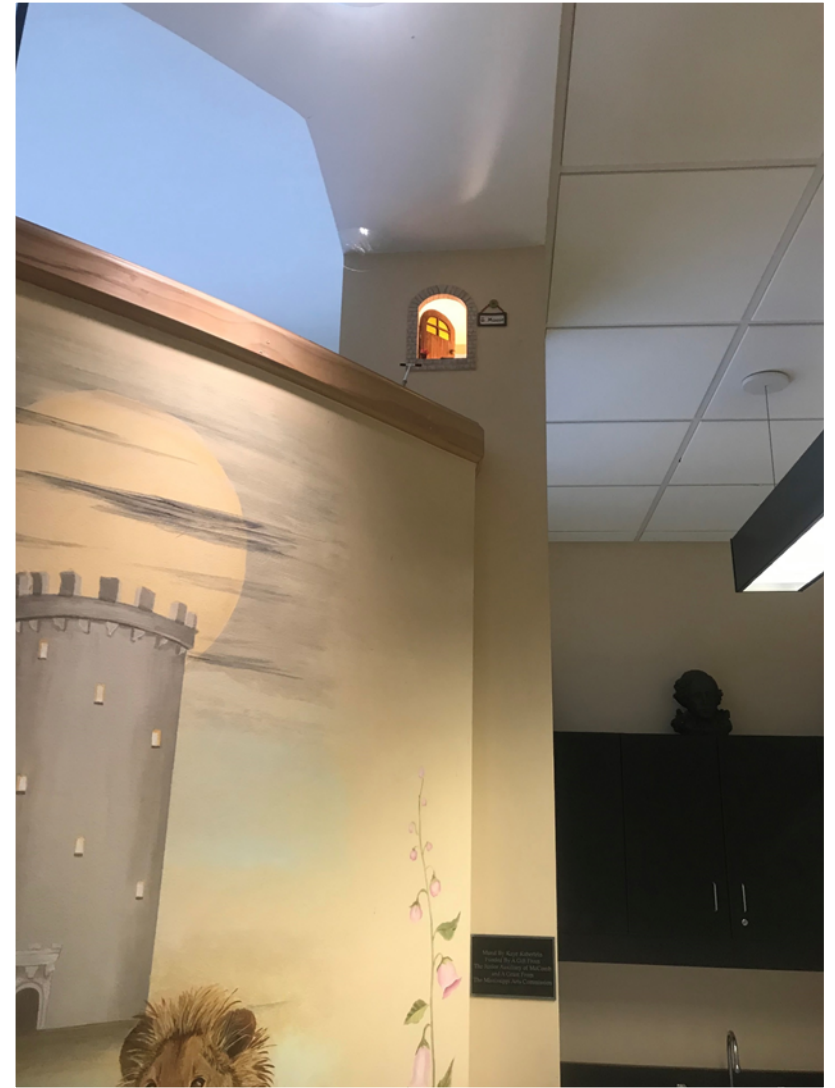
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- Scooter Mouse series
- Dramatic telling with multiple voices
- Decorated library





# Scooter Mouse





# Wednesday Friends

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CRAFTS



SPEAKERS (MISS MISSISSIPPI  
AND MASAI WARRIOR)



EXTENSIVE MENTORING/  
ASSISTANCE

# Wednesday Friends

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## Sing-along

Miss Mattie leads with musical instrument

Men and women take the parts of different animals with accompanying hand gestures



Symphonic effect where each is validated as part of the whole



# Florida Atlantic University (FAU) Book Club

- Attached to Post-Secondary Education (PSE) program, Academy for Community Inclusion (ACI)
- Member of Next Chapter Book Club (NCBC)
  - Dr. Tom Fish Ohio State University
  - Informal book club based on reading and socialization





# FAU Evolution

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Structured discussion  
gave way to spontaneity

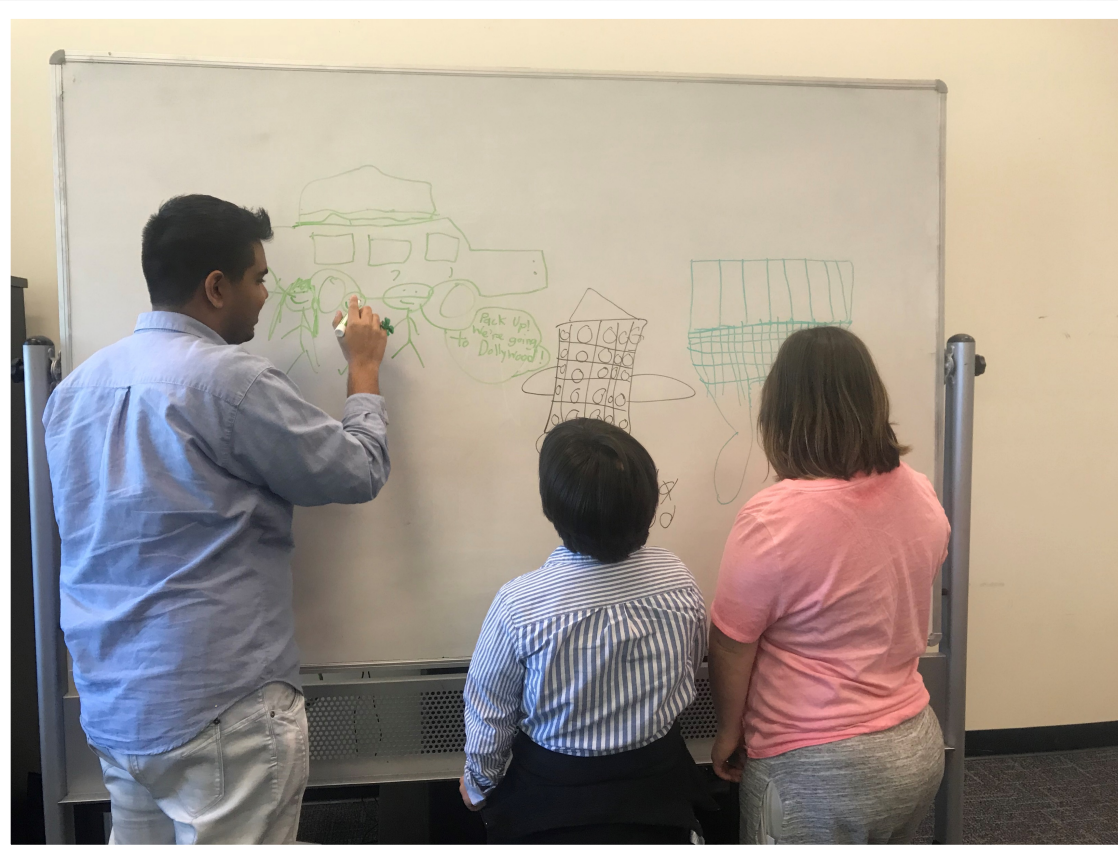


Games in addition to  
reading

- Quiz games
- Dramatic games
- Interactive games



# Pictionary/Charades Combo





# Example

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Emerging reader, born in Egypt,  
had little to no participation

Inspired by book about mummy

Dramatic flair in using a tablecloth  
to portray a ghost in Charades





## Multisensory Approach to Literature

Nicola Grove began as English teacher in UK

Switched to speech therapist, appalled at reading matter

**Multisensory explorations of literature**

- Real, canonical texts e.g. Shakespeare, Dickens
- Dramatic performance
- Movement
- Games
- Context of story

# Storysharing

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Students generate personal stories

Story out of performance

<https://storysharing.org.uk/>



# Redwood SEED Scholars

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PSE UC Davis

Instructors elementary and high school teachers

Literacy

- Refugees
- Online game
- Google Maps

# Map

The screenshot shows a Google Maps browser window. The browser's address bar contains the URL: <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?mid=11Jwxt0GVcX-Odz5BjX45GzSpdBSftn48ll=38.02243934>. The map displays Europe and the Middle East with ten purple numbered markers (1-10) indicating specific locations. The left sidebar is open to the details for 'Nickelsdorf's train station'. The sidebar content includes:

- Name:** Nickelsdorf's train station
- Description:** Boarding a train at the Nickelsdorf's train station
- Details from Google Maps:** 2425 Nickelsdorf, Austria; [www.nickelsdorf.at](http://www.nickelsdorf.at); [View in Google Maps](#)
- Photos:** 10 photos

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the search bar with the text 'Type here to search', the system tray with the date '7:24 PM 3/30/2022', and various application icons.



# SEED Scholars

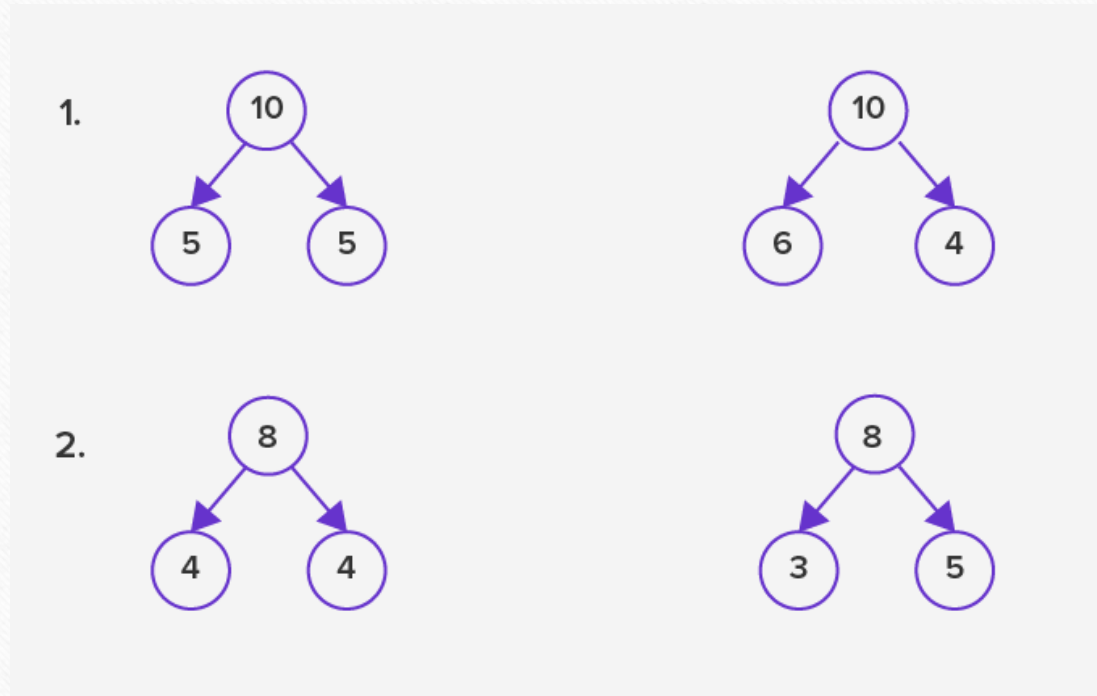
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- Math
- Multisensory philosophy: geometric, physical intuition, physical models, verbal explanation, play
- Connecting student comments in discussion, validating individuals within the class



# Number Bond

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# Libraries

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One-shot  
session  
barrier

Remote  
learning

Scavenger  
hunt: Tactile,  
game format

# Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library

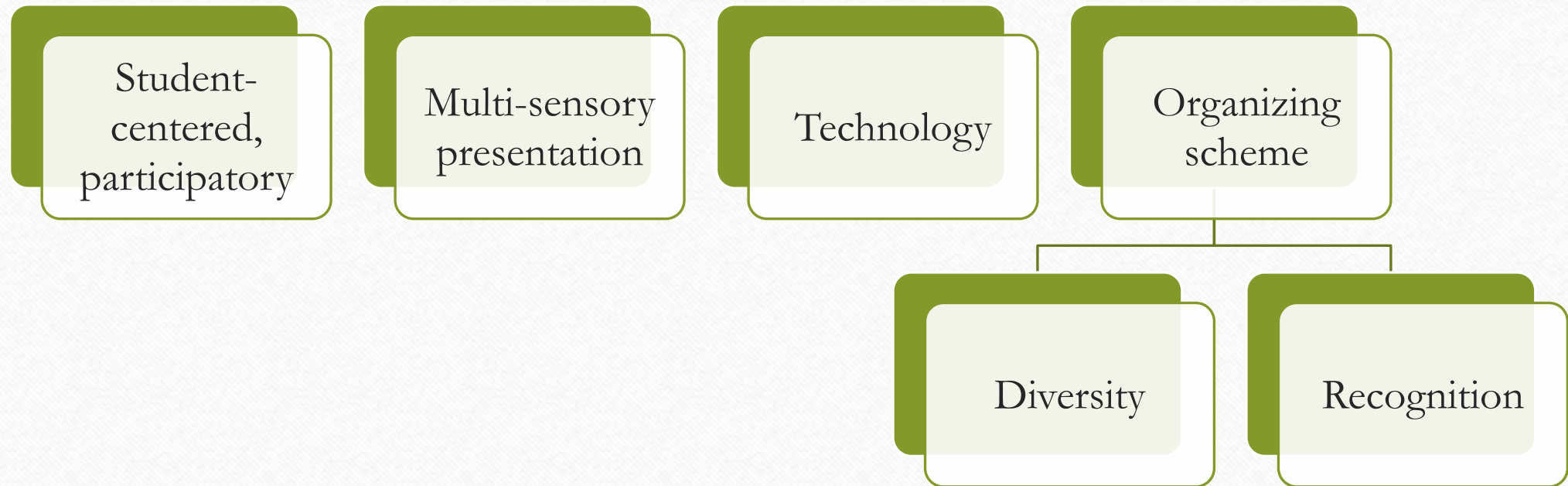
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# Summary

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# References

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- Rose, D.H., & Meyer, A. (2002). Teaching every student in the Digital Age: Universal design for learning. Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.
- An, D., & Carr, M. (2017). Learning styles theory fails to explain learning and achievement: Recommendations for alternative approaches. *Personality and Individual Differences*, 116, 410-416.



# Contacts

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