

“
The versatility of the Apex Learning digital curriculum helps our teachers meet the disparate needs of students.”

— Bob Hahn
Online Course Facilitator
Cherokee County School District
Georgia

Create Opportunities for All Students

A challenge for any teacher is that all students start at a different point when entering the classroom and each has a unique set of learning needs. Exceptional learners range from students with disabilities or other hardships that prevent them from participating in the traditional classroom, to students who do not speak English as their first language, to gifted learners who can move at an accelerated pace.

Such a diverse range of needs means that each student requires an individualized learner-experience to achieve academic success. Apex Learning digital curriculum is able to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of each student by addressing their varied learning styles.

A balance of direct instruction, constructive practice, and formative feedback gives all students access to rigorous content and to scaffolding to support learning for all students. Each student moves at his or her own pace, spending as much time as needed to master the material.

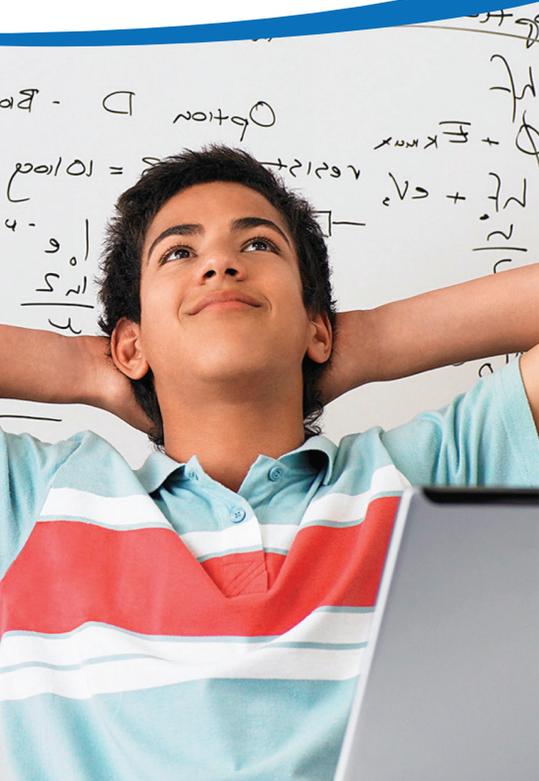
Universal Design for Learning (UDL)

Apex Learning® courses are based on the Universal Design for Learning, a framework that aims to reach the greatest number of students at their individual learning levels. UDL recommends incorporating three types of flexible instruction, all of which Apex Learning has implemented.

Multiple methods of content presentation: Apex Learning digital curriculum utilize audio, video, illustrations, graphic organizers, and a varied level of complexity in instruction.

Multiple modes of student expression: Students complete organizer-based and media-based assignments and have access to support tools.

Multiple ways to engage students: Apex Learning digital curriculum include discussions, online activities, games, and brainstorming.



More Ways to Engage the Exceptional Learner

In addition to incorporating the principles of UDL, all Apex Learning courses include a variety of tools and features to help students at all levels customize the learning experience to their own needs.

Ability to self-pace: Students work at their own pace, providing struggling students enough time to master a concept, while a gifted learner can work more quickly.

Audio assistance: Students have the option to listen along as they read. This is highly beneficial to struggling readers and students with attention deficits. Research indicates that below-proficiency readers can read at proficiency when they read texts that are accompanied by audio.

Formative feedback: Meaningful praise for correct answers and encouraging feedback for incorrect answers reinforce student achievement. Feedback accompanies unscored embedded self-checks as well as computer-scored assessments.

Stepping out: Directions for complex tasks, such as solving a proof or writing an essay, are broken down into smaller, more manageable steps with appropriate explanation and guidance. This helps students understand what is expected of them and promotes the development of problem-solving skills.

Study assistance: Assignment sheets -available in printable and paperless formats- guide students through the content. These include graphic organizers, note-taking guides, and practice questions to aid students as they learn new material and review for tests.

“This is not a one-size-fits-all curriculum. It engages students through active learning as they read, watch, listen, inquire, write, discuss, and manipulate.”

– Jason Bailey
Director of eLearning and
Instructional Technology
Evansville-Vanderburgh
School Corporation
Indiana