Accessible Slide Design

This slide deck offers some tips for designing accessible slide presentations

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With support from Linda Ojala and Chrissie Butler (CORE Education)

Empathy drives design

Think about how your design choices impact others and ask:

- Is everyone able to perceive the information?
- Is everyone able to navigate and interact with the content?
- Is everyone able to understand the content?

Reference: Getting Started with Presentation Accessibility, National Centre on Accessible Education Materials

Design considerations

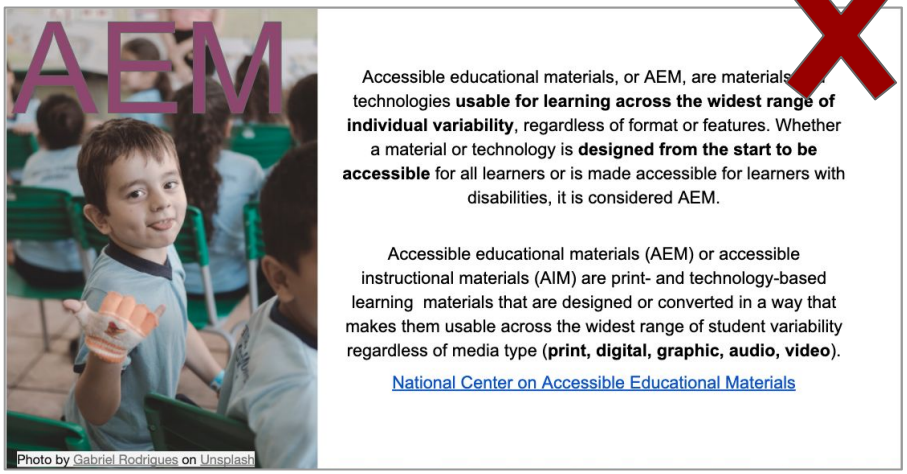
- Clearly articulate your purpose and key takeaways
- Identify participant needs
- Identify and mitigate possible barriers for participants
- Support structure and navigation (e.g. create sections, subheadings, ….)

Reading: 10 tips for better slide decks (TED Talks)

Accessible slides

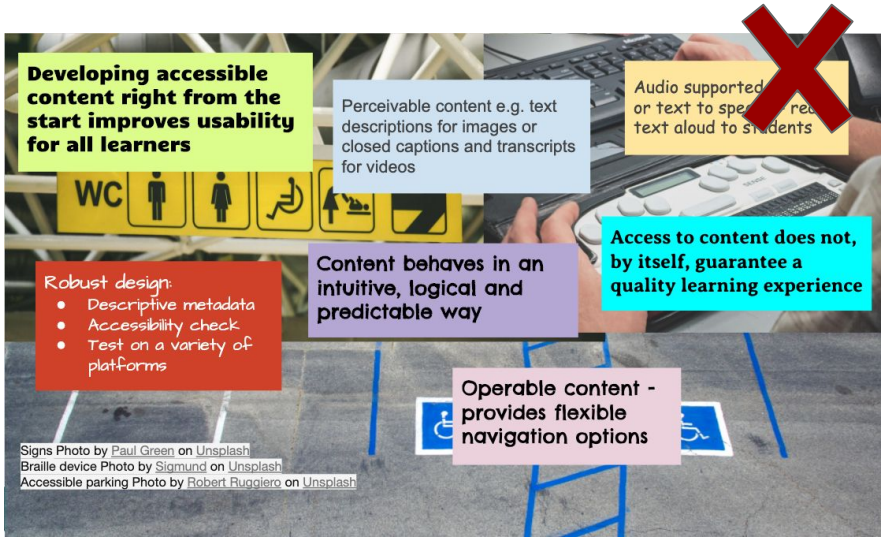
- Declutter
  - Essential text only, large font
  - Visual clutter
- Style consistency
  - Font, colour scheme, layouts etc
- Text
  - High contrast colours
  - Clear background
- Image descriptions (alt text)

Examples



E.g. Essential text only

E.g. Declutter



Braille device Photo by Sigmund on Unsplash

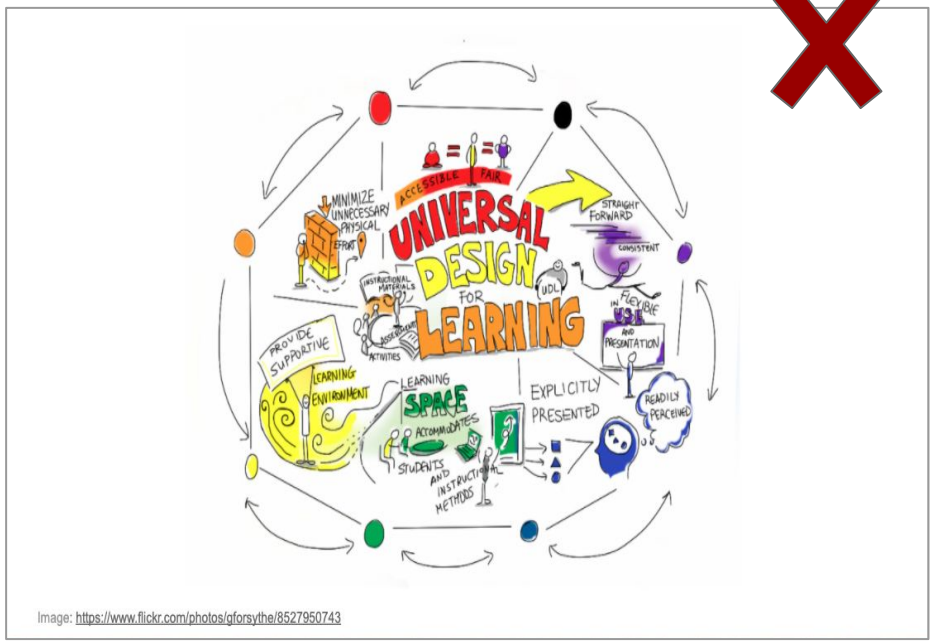
Develop accessible content right from the start

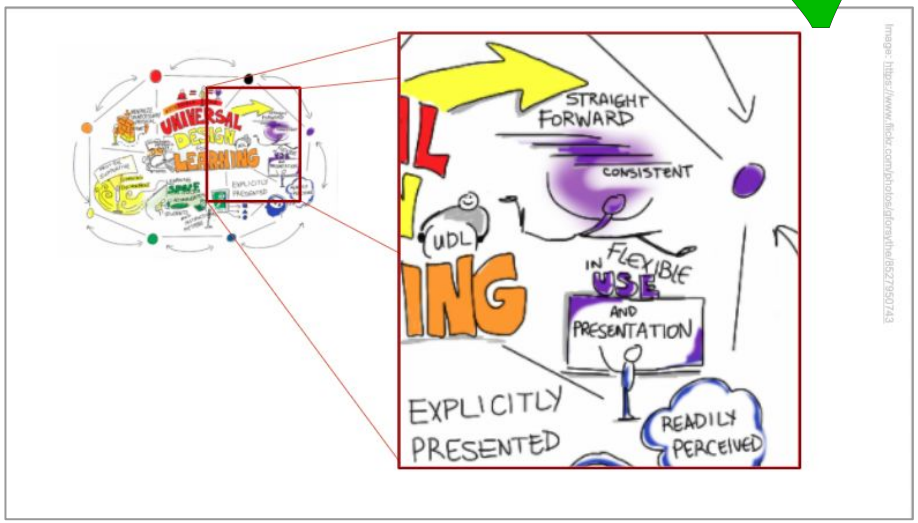
- Perceivable content
- Flexible navigation options
- Content that behaves intuitively
- Robust design:
  - Metadata
  - Accessibility check
  - Test on a variety of platforms

Remember....

Access alone does not guarantee quality learning

E.g. Ensure you can read diagrams or avoid them





E.g. Avoid adding unreadable tables or diagrams

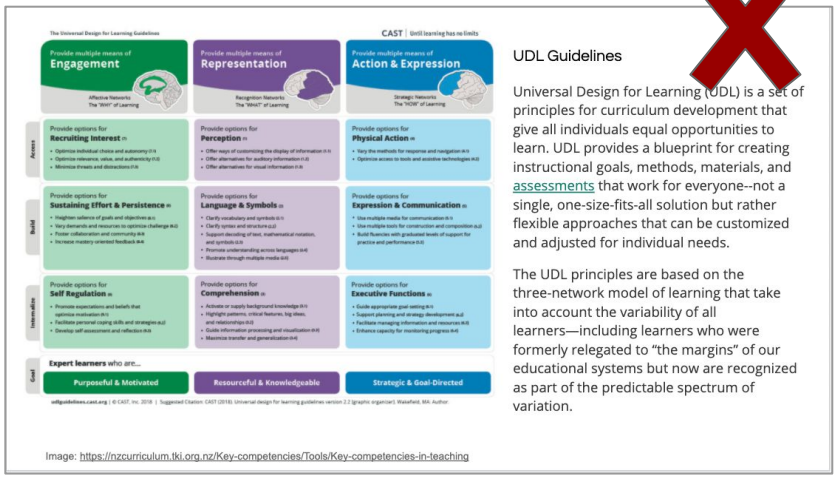
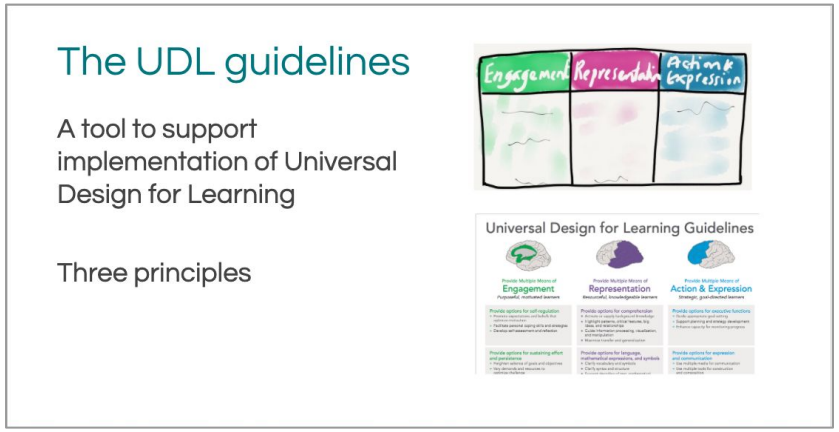


Image: https://nzcurriculum.tki.org.nz/Key-competencies/Tools/Key-competencies-in-teaching



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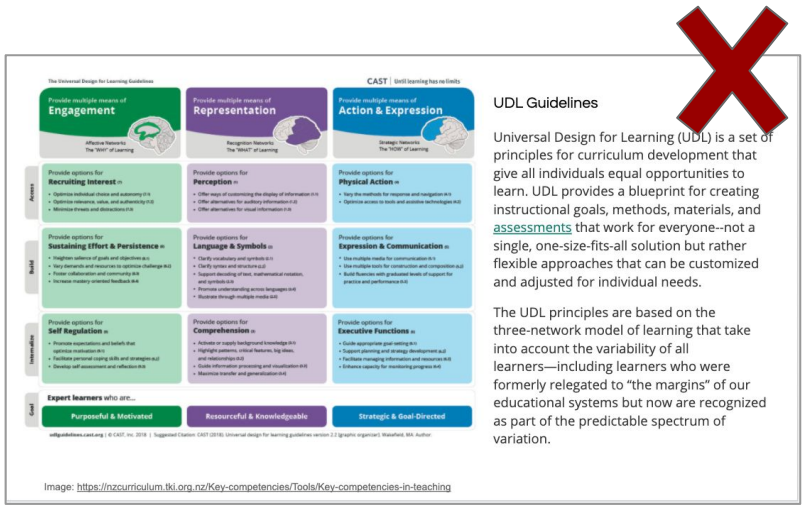

UDL Guidelines

Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is a set of principles for curriculum development that give all individuals equal opportunities to learn. UDL provides a blueprint for creating instructional goals, methods, materials, and assessments that work for everyone--not a single, one-size-fits-all solution but rather flexible approaches that can be customized and adjusted for individual needs.

The UDL principles are based on the three-network model of learning that take into account the variability of all learners—including learners who were formerly relegated to "the margins" of our educational systems but now are recognized as part of the predictable spectrum of variation.

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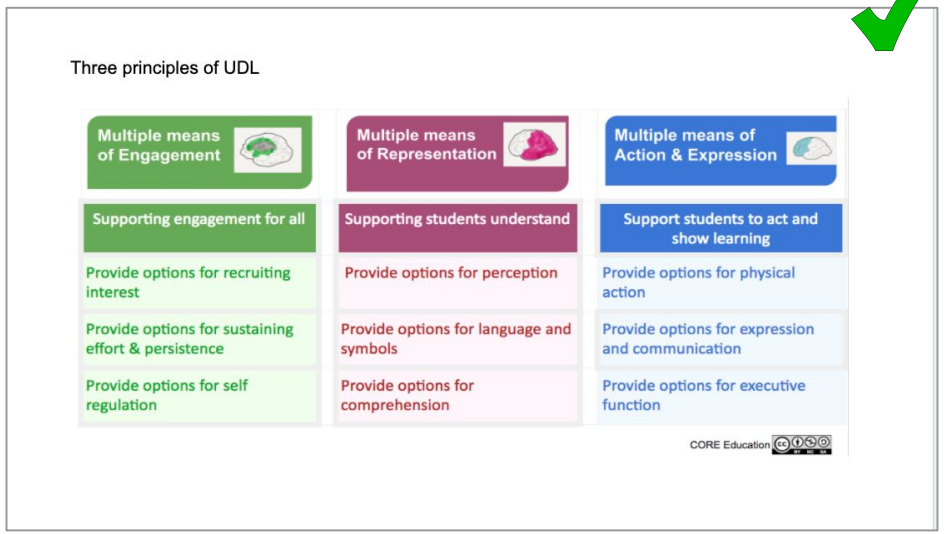
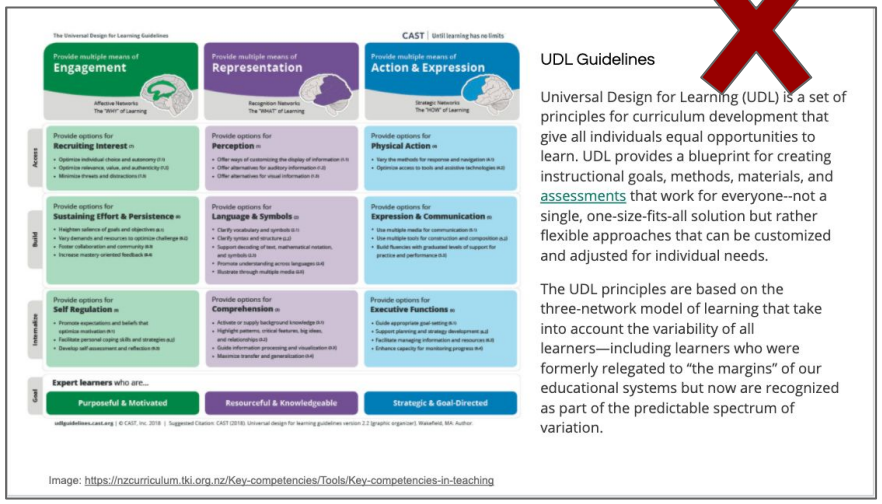


E.g. Avoid adding unreadable tables unless it is a visual prompt for a participant activity



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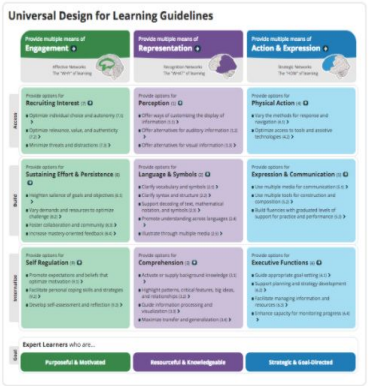
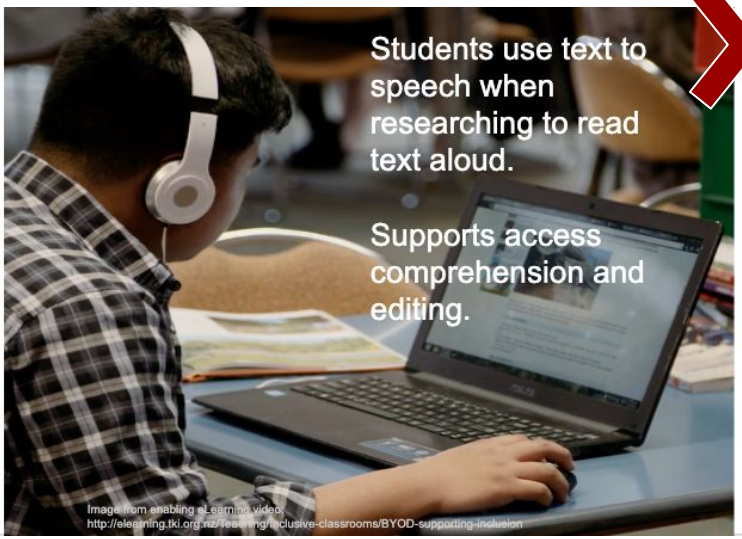
The UDL guidelines

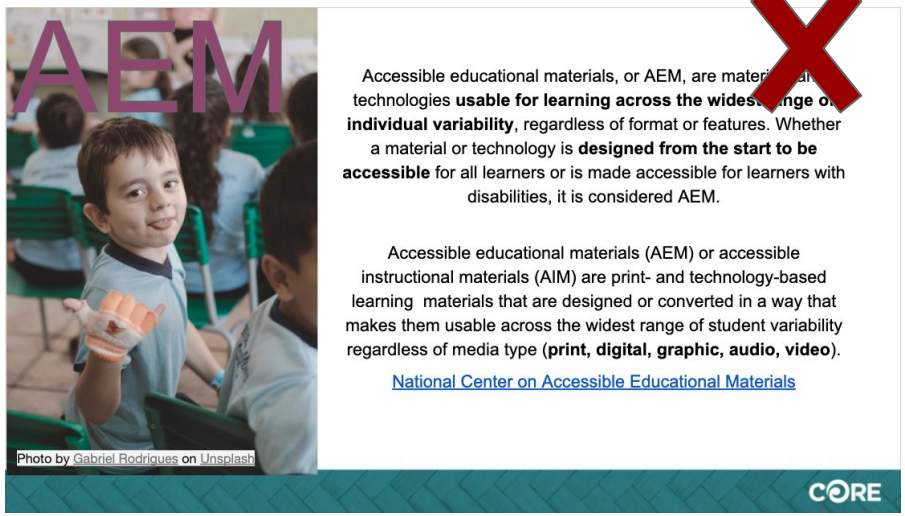
- tool supports implementation
- three principles
- Interactive UDL Graphic
- Ideas and examples at each checkpoint

Activity:
Click to explore the UDL guidelines



E.g. Use high contrast text and take great care with text over images





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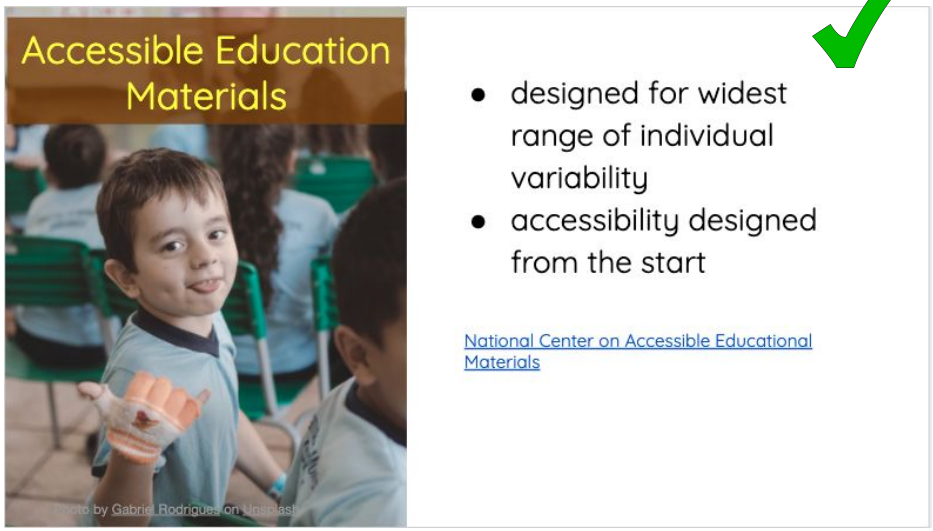

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"Accessibility allows us to tap into everyone's potential." — Debra Ruh

E.g. Decide on key ideas for each slide and avoid unnecessary extras

"Accessibility allows us to tap into everyone's potential."
Debra Ruh

Declutter
Style consistency
Text
Image descriptions (alt text)

Reading: 10 tips for better slide decks (TED Talks)

E.g. Use a simple font, keep them consistent throughout the slide deck

More complex and harder to access		
Chelsea Market	AMANTIC SC	Architects
Pacifico	Bree Serif	Comic Sans
Corsiva	Caveat	Slackey

Simple	
Arial	Courier
Calibri	Verdana
Georgia	Helvetica

E.g Use high contrast, keep consistent colour schemes throughout the slide deck

Low contrast examples	
Text here	Text here
Text here	Text here And watch colour blindness
Text here	Text here

High contrast examples	
Text here	Text here
Text here	Text here
Text here	Text here

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