# Tailored Teaching Innovative Differentiation Strategies for Deaf Students in Science Education



#### Connie Potersnak and Debbie Andries - October 2024

### Our positive assumptions will become a reality.



# Adopt a "Can Do" Attitude





# Agenda

- What is Differentiated Instruction?
- A look at the four elements of DI: (content, process, product, and learning environment)
- Examples of each

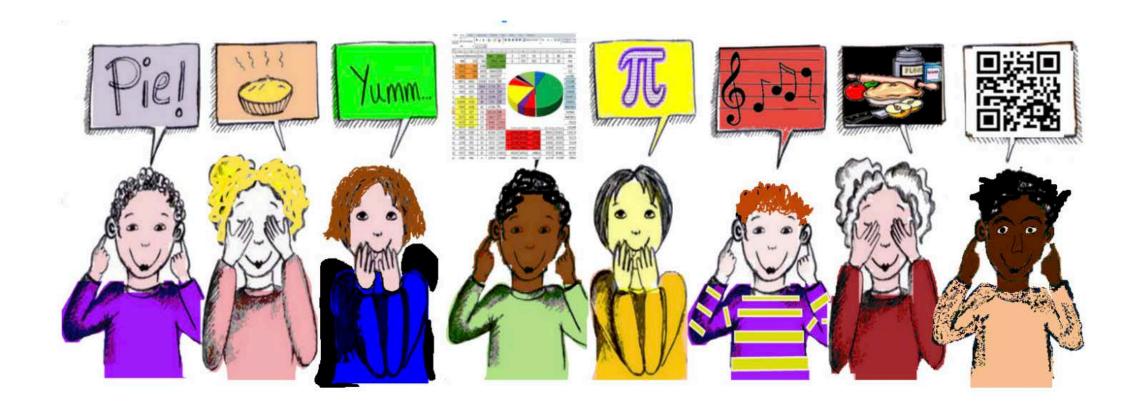
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## What is Differentiated Instruction?

Creating lessons that :

- highlight students' needs
- grow students' interests
- include students' preferred learning styles

- meet the same learning objectives for all students
- personalize learning
- emphasize students' strengths



# Differentiation is not only for students with disabilities. It is for all students in all content

CICOS.

# Today, however, we will be focusing on how we can differentiate for Deaf students in Science classes.



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# The 4 Elements of Differentiated Instruction

Content: concepts and standards being taught

(small groups, with visual supports, written materials, interactive lessons, working in pairs, etc.)

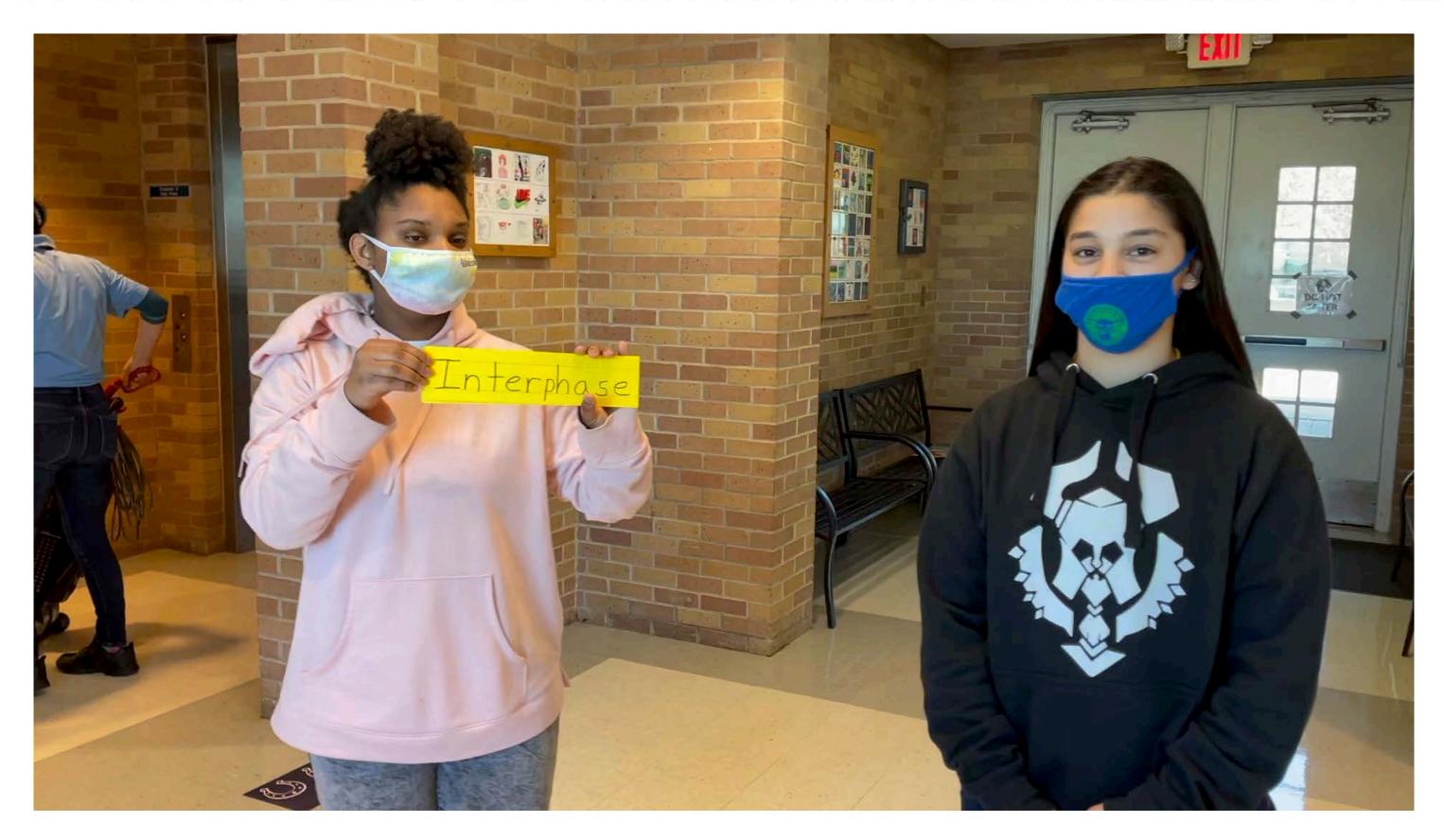
learned (flexible means with clear expectations)

- Process: HOW TEACHERS will be delivering the information
- Product: HOW will the STUDENTS demonstrate what they
- Environment: giving student options within the environment

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## Differentiating Content

This is the WHAT of your teaching. What is the State standard and which prerequisite skills do your students have/need to meet this standard?



#### Required Instructional Standard

STAAR Reporting Category 1 – Understanding and Analysis Across Genres/TEKS 7.2: Students understand new vocabulary and use it when reading and writing.



Use a standards tool to analyze student baselines and how to build towards grade level mastery.

https://www.esc4.net/specialeducation/low-incidence-disabilities/staar-alternate-2-guides/science

#### STAAR Alternate 2 Prerequisite Skill Guide

Subject: Reading

Grade: 7

Student:

Essence Statement RC1: Identifies new vocabulary words in text using a variety of strategies. (7.2)

STAAR Reporting Category 1 – Understanding and Analysis Across Genres/TEKS 7.2: Students understand new vocabulary and use it when reading and writing.

**Directions:** Begin at the bottom of each focus and check off the prerequisite skills the student has mastered. Begin instruction at the next highest prerequisite skill not yet mastered. Work on skills in each focus area (as appropriate) in order to instruct the depth and breadth of the Curriculum Framework. (Note: Essence statements may have more than one focus.)

| Focus: Reading/Vocabulary Development Date: |                            |  |            |  |  |
|---|----------------------------|--|------------|--|--|
| More  | Grade Prerequisite Skills: |  | Mastered/M |  |  |
| Complex                                     |                            |  | Targeted/T |  |  |
|   | 6                          | explain the meaning of foreign words and phrases commonly used   |            |  |  |
|   |                            | in written English (e.g., RSVP, que sera)  |            |  |  |
|   | 6                          | complete analogies that describe part to whole or whole to part  |            |  |  |
|   |                            | (e.g., ink:pen as page: or pen:ink as book:)   |            |  |  |
|   | 6                          | use context (e.g., cause and effect or compare and contrast  |            |  |  |
|   |                            | organizational text structures) to determine or clarify the meaning of   |            |  |  |
|   |                            | unfamiliar or multiple meaning words   |            |  |  |
|   | 5-8                        | use a dictionary, a glossary, or a thesaurus (printed or electronic) to  |            |  |  |
|   |                            | determine the meanings, syllabication, pronunciations, alternate   |            |  |  |
|   |                            | word choices, and parts of speech of words   |            |  |  |
|   | 3                          | identify the meaning of common prefixes (e.g., in-, dis-) and suffixes   |            |  |  |
|   |                            | (e.g., -full, -less), and know how they change the meaning of roots<br>alphabetize a series of words and use a dictionary or a glossary to |            |  |  |
|   | 2                          | find words   |            |  |  |
|   | 2                          | identify and use common words that are opposite (antonyms) or  |            |  |  |
|   |                            | similar (synonyms) in meaning  |            |  |  |
|   | 2                          | use context to determine the relevant meaning of unfamiliar words  |            |  |  |
|   |                            | or multiple-meaning words  |            |  |  |
|   | 2                          | use prefixes and suffixes to determine the meaning of words (e.g.,   |            |  |  |
|   |                            | allow/disallow)  |            |  |  |
|   | 1                          | alphabetize a series of words to the first or second letter and use a  |            |  |  |
|   |                            | dictionary to find words   |            |  |  |
|   | 1                          | identify and sort words into conceptual categories (e.g., opposites,   |            |  |  |
|   |                            | living things)   |            |  |  |
|   | 1                          | determine what words mean from how they are used in a sentence,  |            |  |  |
|   |                            | either heard or read   |            |  |  |
|   | 1                          | determine the meaning of compound words using knowledge of the   |            |  |  |
|   |                            | meaning of their individual component words (e.g., lunchtime)  |            |  |  |
|   | 1                          | identify words that name actions (verbs) and words that name   |            |  |  |
|   |                            | persons, places, or things (nouns)   |            |  |  |
|   | 1                          | use a picture dictionary to find words   |            |  |  |
|   | 1                          | identify and sort pictures of objects into conceptual categories (e.g.,  |            |  |  |
|   |                            | colors, shapes, textures)  |            |  |  |
|   | K                          | recognize that compound words are made up of shorter words   |            |  |  |

08/17/16 Adapted from the Texas Education Agency Curriculum Framework and Developed by Region 4 Education Service Center (ESC) in Collaboration with ESCs 3, 9, 11, 12, & 20



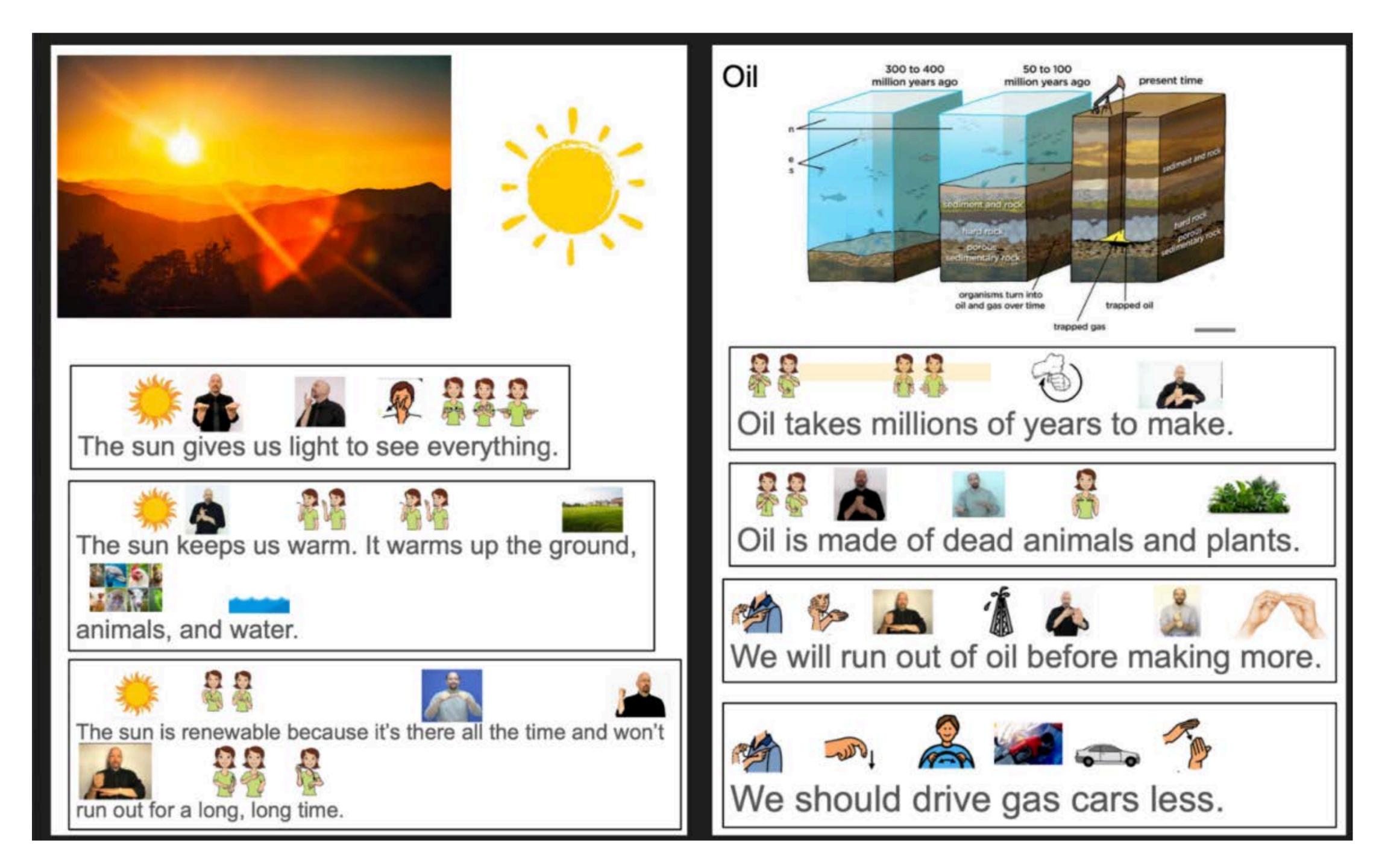
From this standards example: Provide tools for students to use when confronting new Science vocabulary.

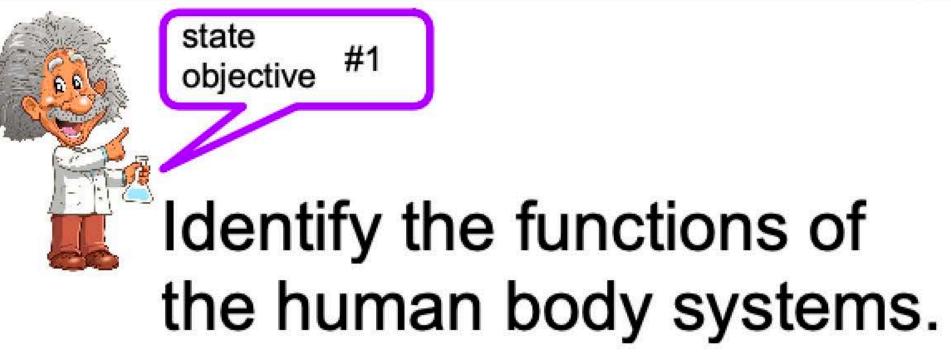
| Prefix/Suffix     | Meaning              |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| a-                | Lacking; none        |
| ana-              | Apart                |
| auto-             | Self                 |
| bi-               | Two; twice; double   |
| bio-              | Life; living         |
| carb-             | Carbon               |
| cell-             | Chamber              |
| chlor-            | Green                |
| chrom-            | Color                |
| CO-               | With, together       |
| cyt-              | Cell                 |
| di-               | Two; double          |
| en-/endo-         | In                   |
| exo-              | out                  |
| extra-            | Outside, beyond      |
| gene-             | Origin; birth        |
| hetero-           | Different            |
| homo-             | Same; alike          |
| hydr-             | Water                |
| hypo-             | Beneath; under; less |
| nyper-            | Above; over          |
| ntra-             | Inside               |
| SO-               | Same                 |
| ip-               | Fat                  |
| logy              | Study                |
| -lys, -lyt, -lyst | Split, dissolve      |

#### **Prefix & Suffix Reference Sheet**

| Prefix/Suffix | Meaning               |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| macro-        | Large                 |
| meta-         | Along, middle         |
| micro-        | Small                 |
| mono-         | Single                |
| multi-        | Many                  |
| non-          | Not                   |
| 00-/0V-       | egg                   |
| phag-         | Eat                   |
| -philic       | Love, attraction      |
| -phobic       | Fear of               |
| photo-        | Light                 |
| -phyll        | Leaf                  |
| poly-         | Many                  |
| plasm-        | Form                  |
| pre-          | Before; ahead of time |
| pro-          | Forward, before       |
| -sacchar-     | Sugar                 |
| scope         | Look; observe         |
| sperm-        | Seed                  |
| -synthesis    | Put together, make    |
| telo-         | End                   |
| trans-        | Across                |
| tri-          | Three                 |
| -troph        | Nourishment, food     |
| uni-          | One                   |

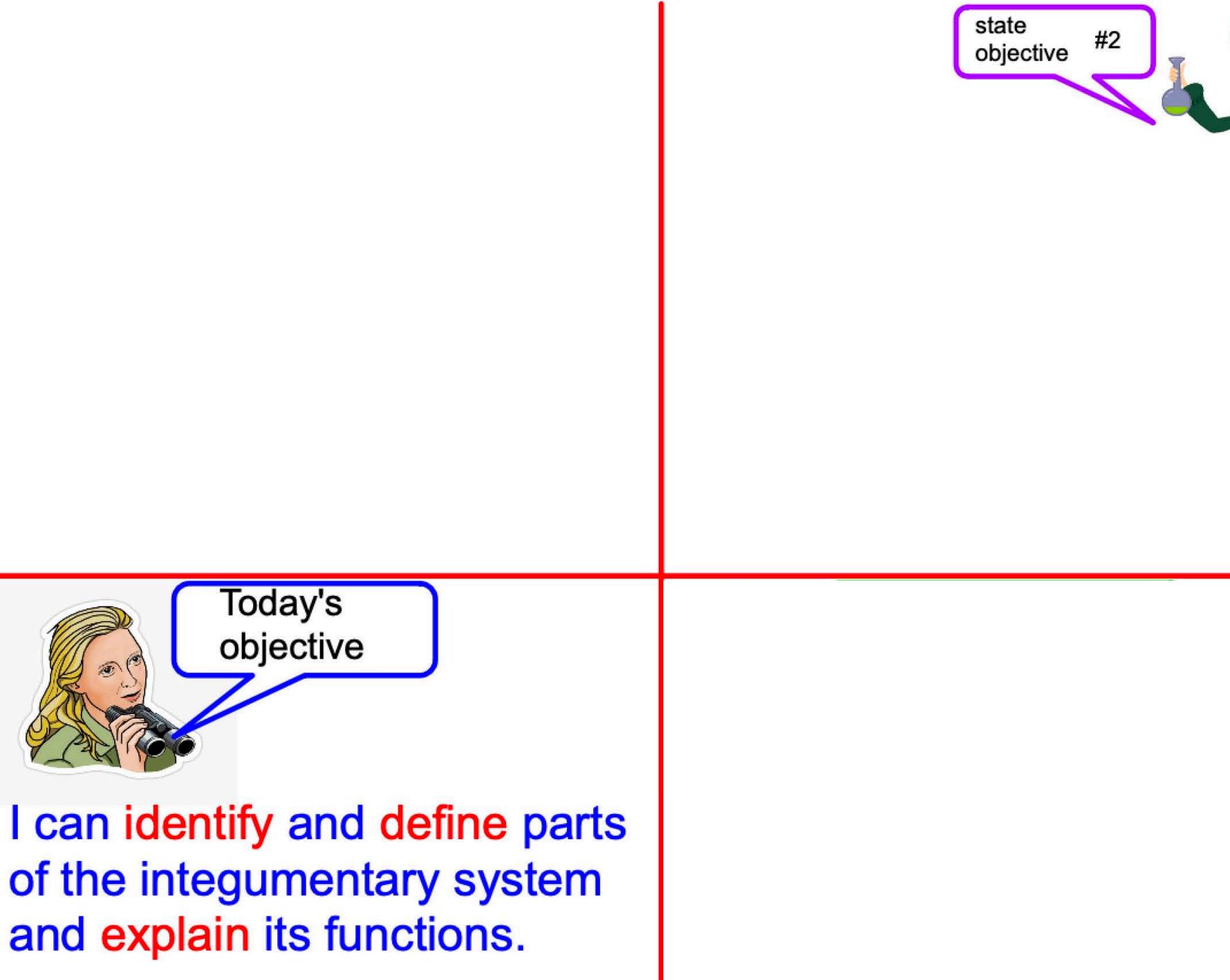






- integumentary
- skeletal
- muscular
- circulatory
- respiratory

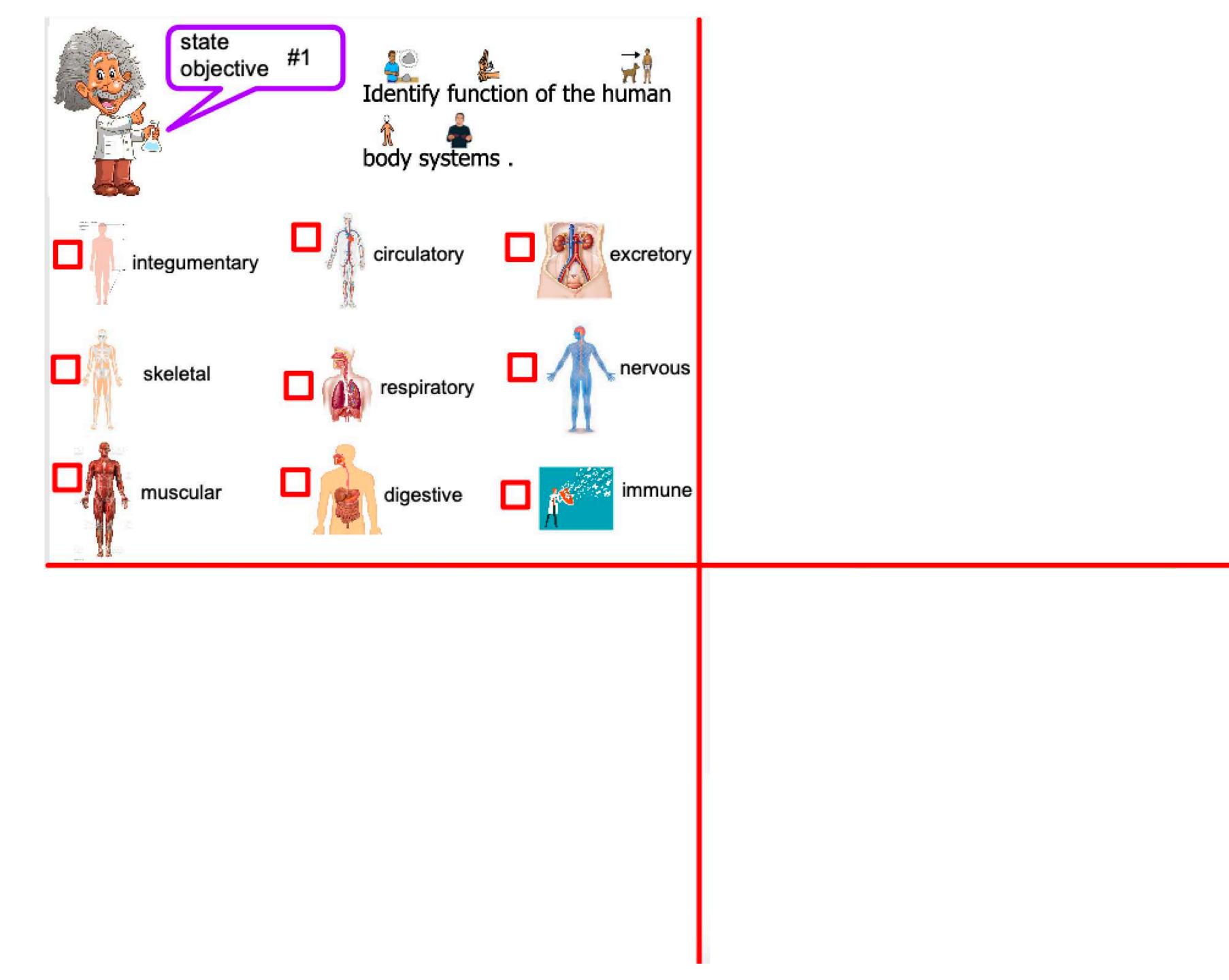
# digestive excretory nervous П immune

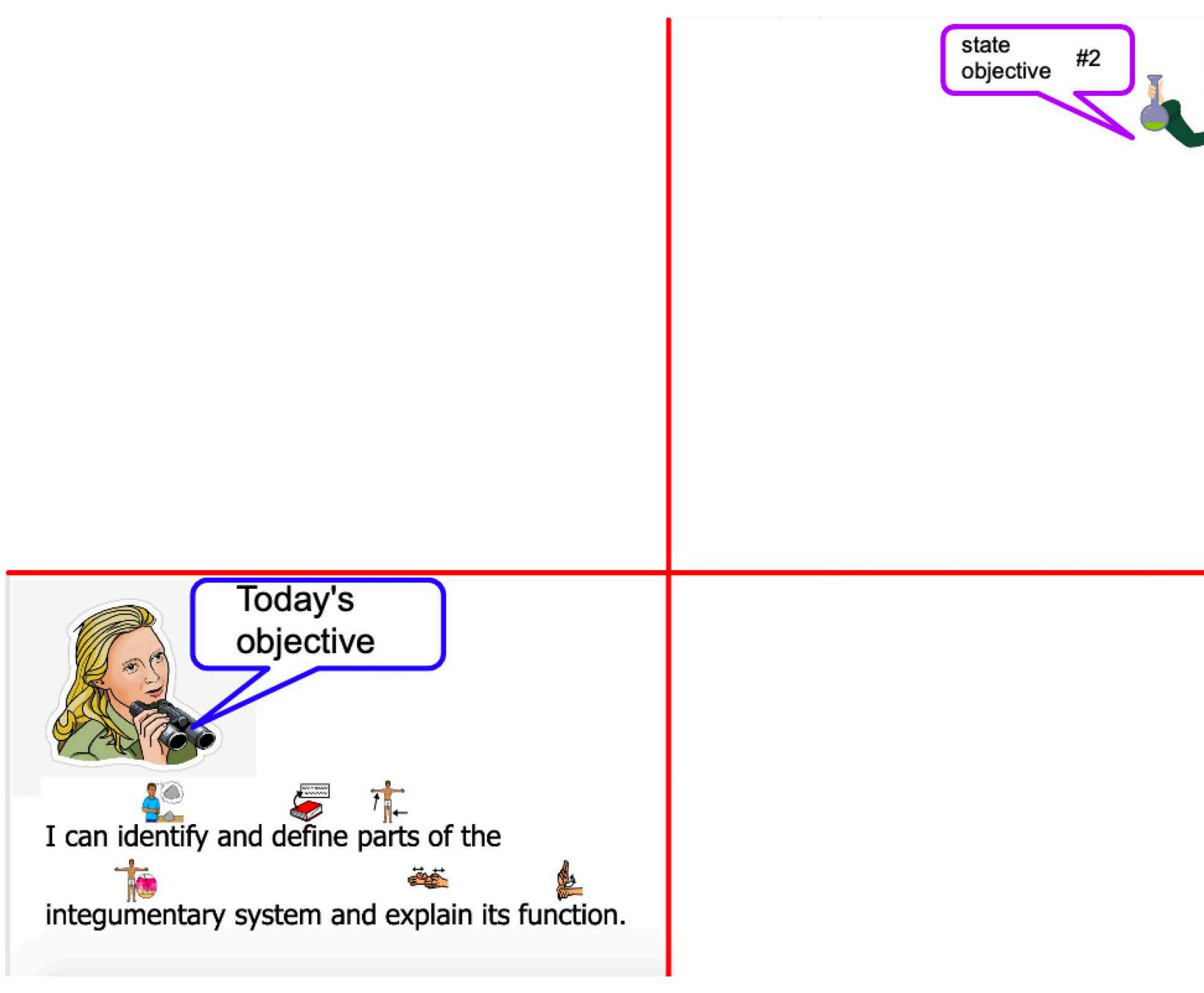






#### It's important to learn about the system that protects everything inside me!

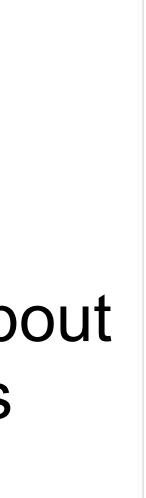








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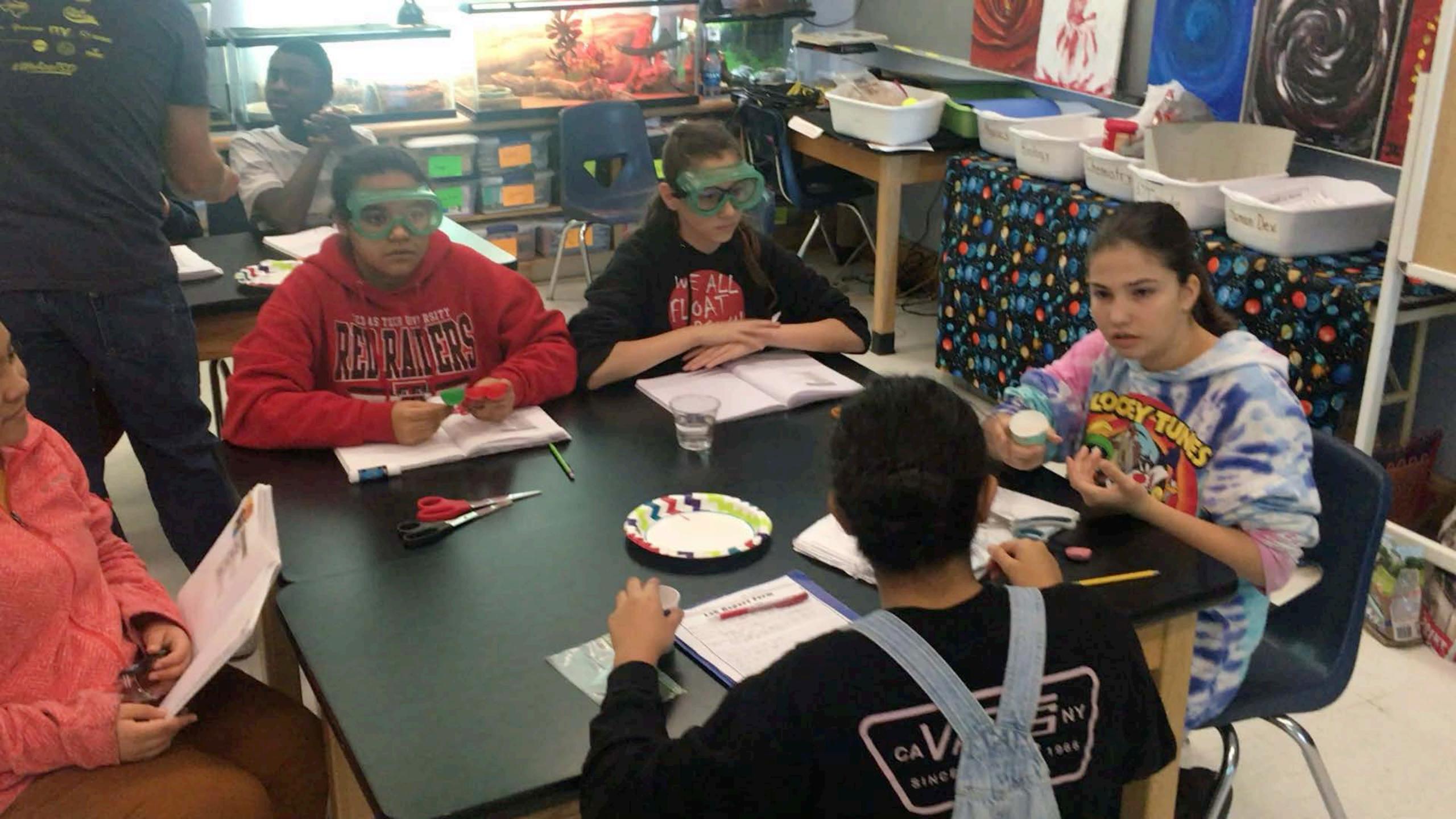


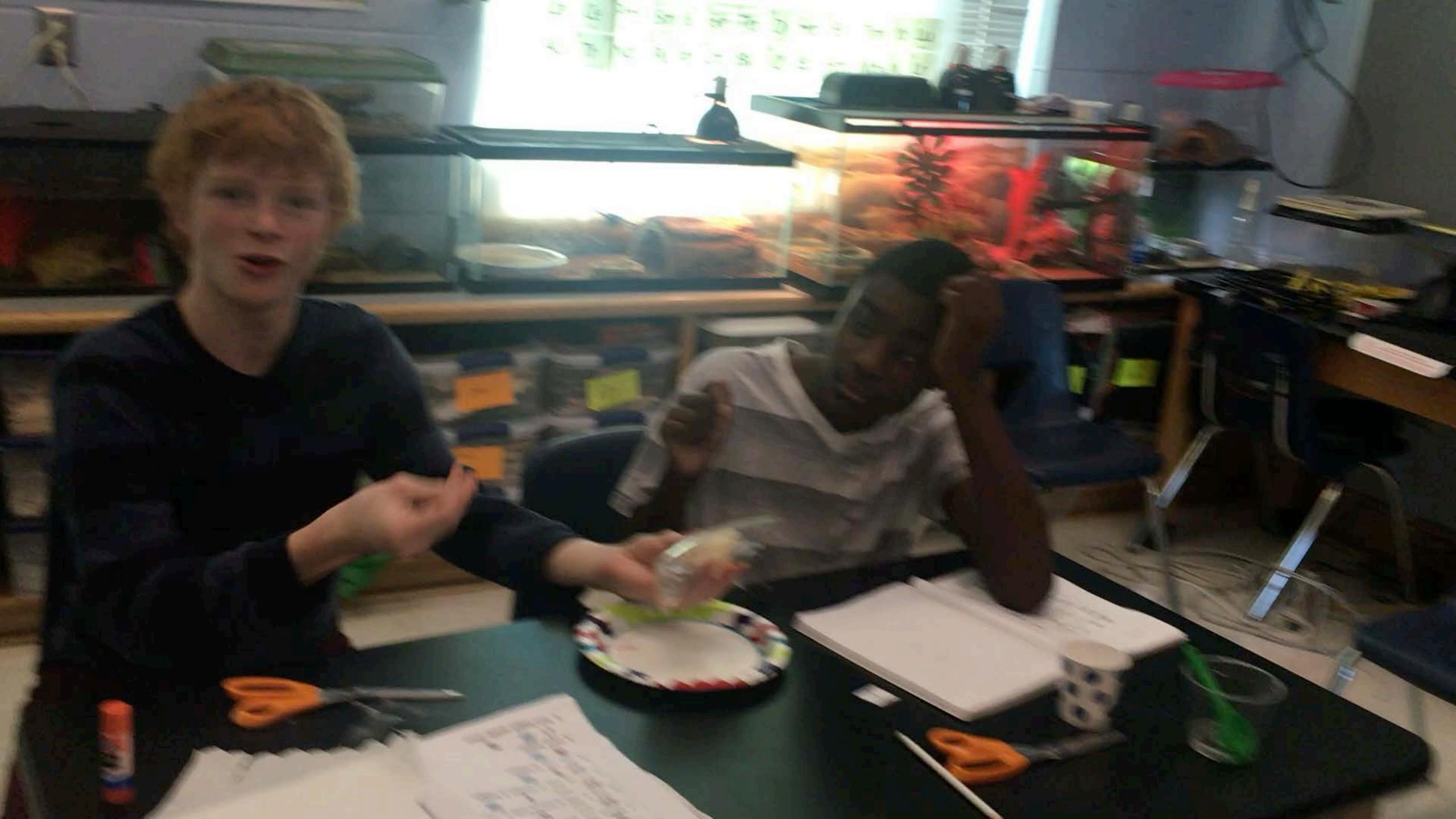
# How do you currently differentiate content in your Science lessons?

## Differentiate the Process



### This is about teaching students different ways to learn the material. Provide them with multiple inputs to touch on different learning preferences.



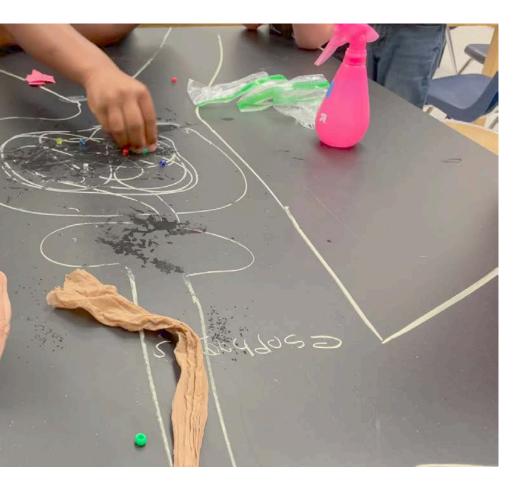


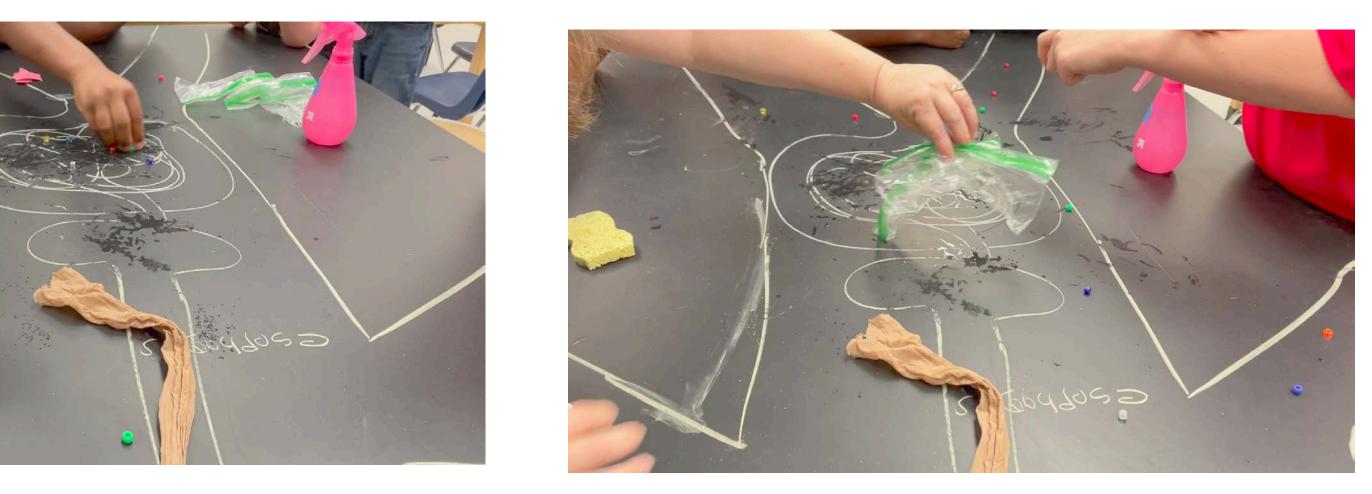
## Digestive System

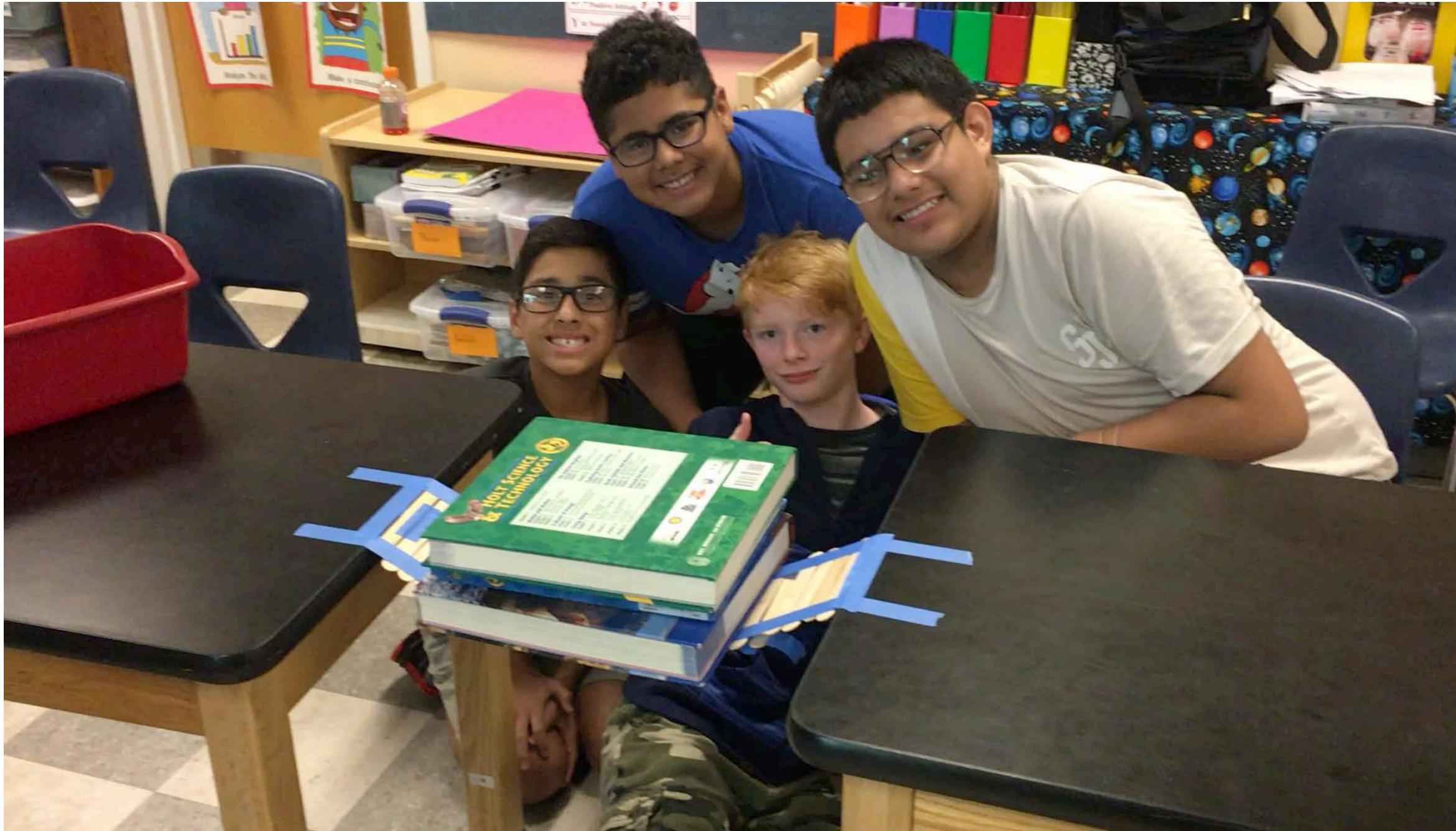




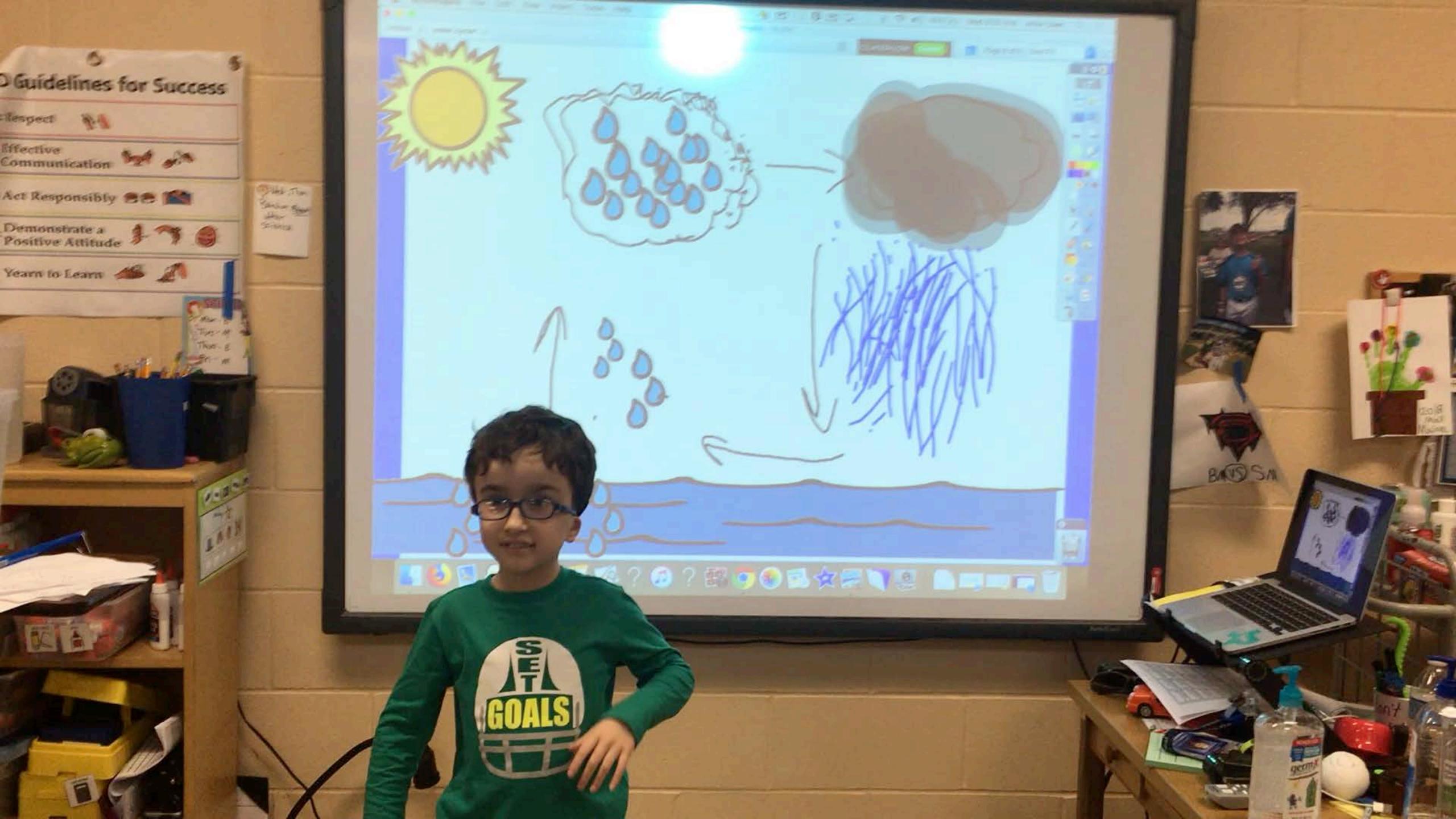




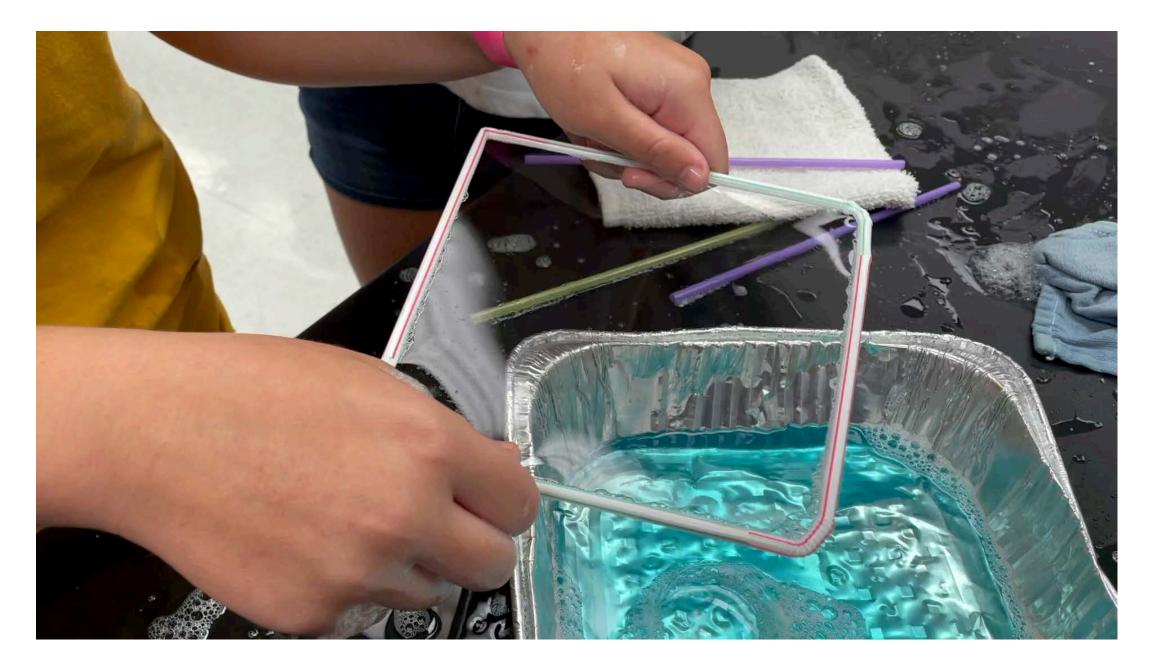
















# How do you currently differentiate the process in your Science lessons?

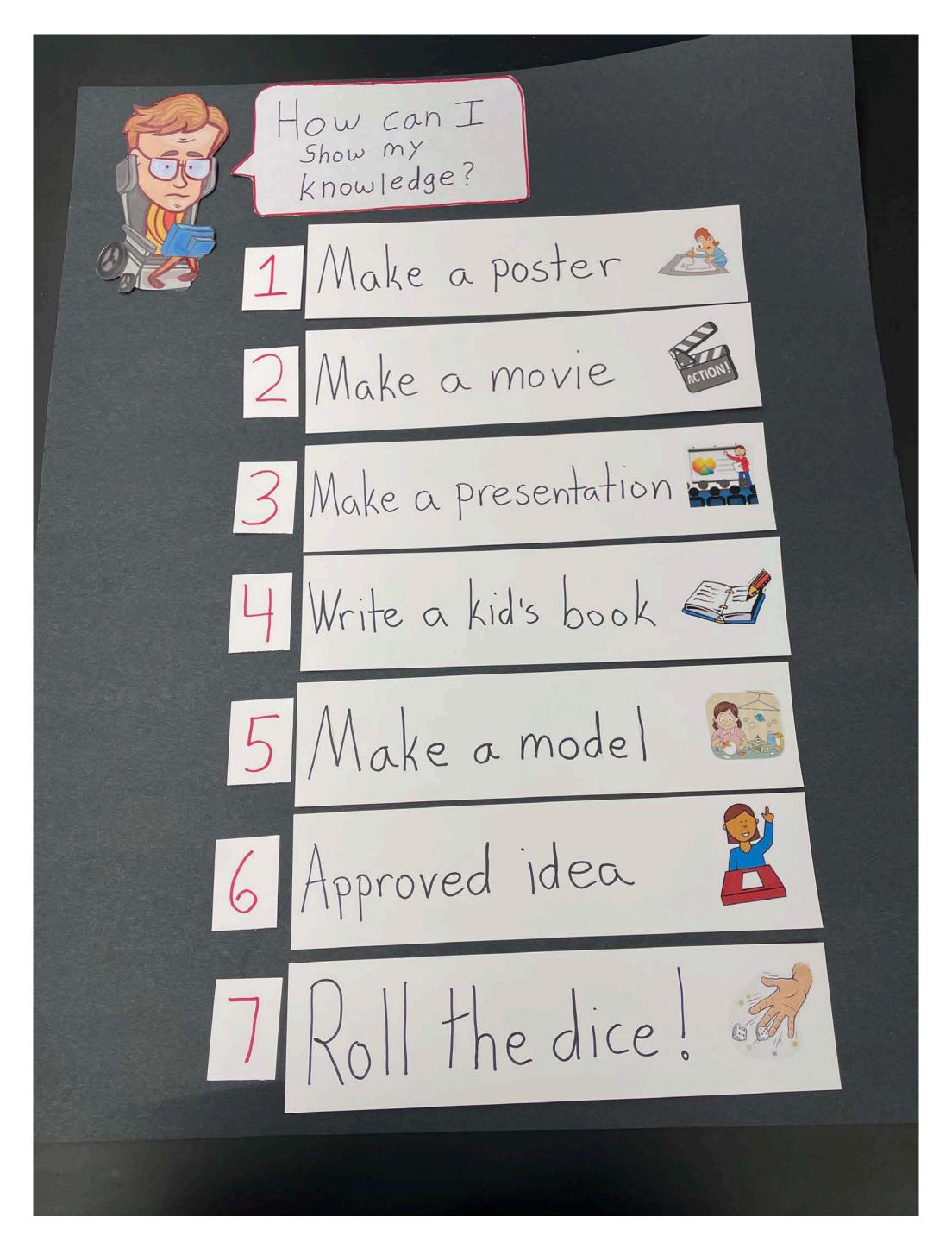


## Differentiating the Product

There are many different ways students can show what they have learned instead of just giving them a quiz, test, or have them write what they know.

Give them a choice of how they want to show their learning. This helps highlight student needs, strengths, and preferred learning styles.

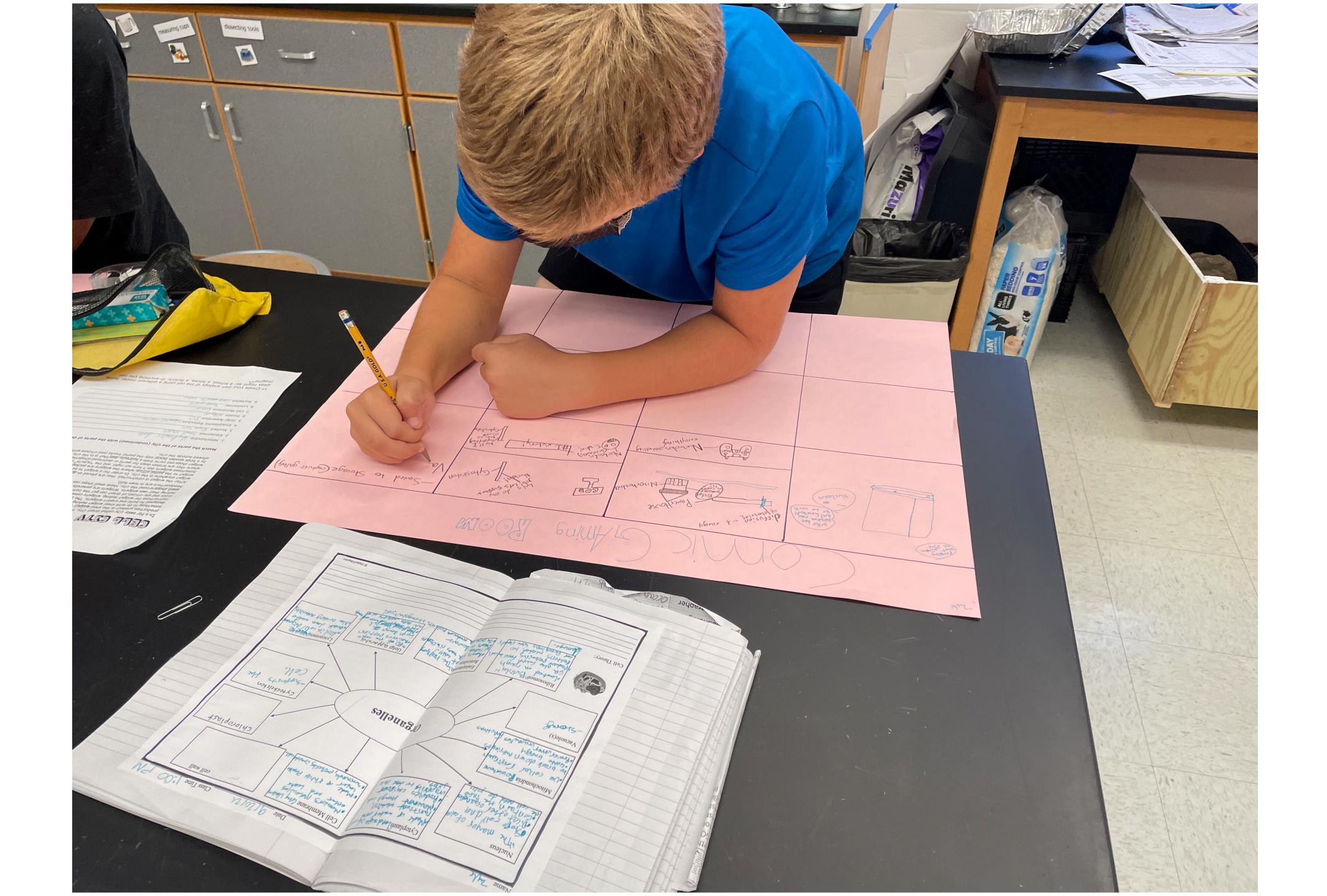
If a student is good at acting things out, what are some things they can do? A good artist?

















# How do you currently differentiate product in your Science classroom?



### Differentiate the Environment

This refers to allowing students/classes to have input in their environment including preferential seating, routines, and movement:

- desk, separate table, hallway, floor, other?;
- entering classroom routines (types of greeting, special handshakes, vocabulary word of the day, etc.);
- routines for leaving classroom for break or restroom; and
- types and frequency of movement breaks (individual, group, ...)



How do you currently differentiate your Science classroom environment?