

# Bold Thinking on Teaching and Learning

---

Grace Smith, Ph.D.    Stephanie Throne, Ph.D.

- Co-authors: *Differentiating Instruction with Technology in K-5 Classrooms* (ISTE: 2007)
- Co-authors: *Differentiating Instruction with Technology in Middle School Classrooms* (ISTE: November, 2009)
- <http://www.everythingdi.net>    <http://everythingdi.blogspot.com/>
- <http://www.iste.org>

Clip: When I Become a Teacher: <http://tinyurl.com/y8b5j2z>

## Bold Thinking means:

1. "The illiterate of the 21<sup>st</sup> century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn." (Toffler)
2. "One of the most challenging pieces of figuring out how to move education forward in a systemic way is the 'unlearning curve' that we teachers and educators have to go through to even see the possibilities." -Will Richardson
3. What do "unlearn" and "relearn" mean?
4. Digital immigrants (teachers and administrators) must be willing to "look inward" and recognize that their strategies must change to reach the digital natives in their classrooms. Move beyond talk of change to actual acceptance and implementation of new pedagogy.

5. "... the basic direction is away from the "old" pedagogy of teachers "telling" (or talking, or lecturing, or being the "Sage on the Stage") to the "new" pedagogy of kids teaching themselves with teacher's guidance (a combination of "student-centered learning," "problem-based learning," "case-based learning," and the teacher's being the "Guide on the Side.") -Marc Prensky
6. *"Teach 2.0 for me is the transformation of teaching practices to become more student-centered, promote innovation, collaboration, problem solving and most of all, thinking."* (Teach 1.0 = Teacher-centered, Direct Instruction, Traditional Assessments, Focus on Rote Learning, Isolated Content, Teacher-directed questions) –Dr. Chris Moersch

How can we connect bold thinking about relearning to differentiated instruction and technology?

7. Differentiated instruction is:

- The belief that students learn in many different ways.
- A collection of best practices.
- A retro idea.
- A way of responding to students' needs.
- High expectations for ALL students, multiple learning paths, and some choices for demonstrating learning.
- DI is important because no two children learn alike. Studies show that students are more successful in school and find it more satisfying when they are taught in ways that are responsive to their readiness levels, interests, and learning profiles.

- DI is a student-centered and grounded in assessment practices.
- Teachers do NOT differentiate everything for everyone every day. Teachers SELECT moments to differentiate, based on formal and informal assessment.
- DI is NOT individualized instruction.

#### 8. Benefits of Using Technology

- It personalizes learning
- It engages students
- It allows students to construct products
- It allows connections with the real world.
- It makes learning fun!

#### 9. Examples (Links posted to [www.everythingdi.net](http://www.everythingdi.net))

#### 10. *What's next?*

Clip: When I Become a Teacher Remix: <http://tinyurl.com/y9t3wxm>