Backward Design Template

Use this template to help organize your learning goals, assessments, and activities for your lesson, unit, or course.

Stage 1 – Desired Results

Established Goals

Refers to the understandings and learning goals of the lesson, unit, or course. (Enter below.)

Transfer

Refers to how students will transfer the knowledge gained from the lesson, unit, or course and apply it outside of the context of the course. (Enter below.)

Meaning: Understandings

Refers to the big ideas and specific understandings students will have when they complete the lesson, unit, or course. (Enter below.)

Meaning: Essential Questions

Refers to the provocation questions that foster inquiry, understanding, and transfer of learning. These questions typically frame the lesson, unit, or course and are often revisited. If students attain the established goals, they should be able to answer the essential question(s). (Enter below.)

Knowledge Acquisition

Refers to the key knowledge students will acquire from the lesson, unit, or course. (Enter below.)

Skill Acquisition

Refers to the key skills students will acquire from the lesson, unit, or course. (Enter below.)

Stage 2 – Evidence & Assessment

Evaluative Criteria

Refers to various types of criteria that students will be evaluated on. (Enter below.)

Assessment Evidence: Performance Task(s)

Refers to authentic performance task(s) that students will complete to demonstrate the desired understandings or demonstrate they have attained the goals. The performance task(s) are typically larger assessments that coalesce various concepts and understandings like large projects or papers. (Enter below.)

Assessment Evidence: Other Evidence

Refers to other types of evidence that will show if students have demonstrated achievement of the desired results. This includes quizzes, tests, homework, etc. This is also a good point to consider incorporating self-assessments and student reflections. (Enter below.)

Stage 3 – Learning Plan

Summary of Key Learning Events and Instructions. This stage encompasses the individual learning activities and instructional strategies that will be employed. This includes lectures, discussions, problem-solving sessions, etc. (Enter below.)