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Differentiating, Scaffolding, and Modifying

Differentiating involves varying instruction to meet needs of the learner(s) you are teaching.

Scaffolding involves modifying lessons and assignments during planning and design, allowing for students of different skills and abilities to be successful with the same content.

Modifying involves changing expectations in recognition of the abilities of different groups of students.

Differentiating is often about a single student (or potentially a small group, particularly in the primary grades) whereas **scaffolding** typically applies to how you approach an entire class or group. **Differentiating** involves maintaining the goal, but providing different tools to reach it whereas **modification** involves changing the goal to meet the abilities of some students.

January 2020