

# 5 COMPONENTS OF AN EFFECTIVE LESSON PLAN



## 1. Start with the End in Mind (Backward Planning)

*Tip:* Identify state standards and essential learning outcomes. Distinguish between what students must learn and what you would like them to learn. Focus on 'power standards'.

## 2. Know Where Your Students Are Starting

*Tip:* Use data to assess students' current levels. Plot students on a quadrant (red, yellow, green, blue) to identify those who are struggling, slipping, doing fine, or excelling. Regularly update this data with assessments to track progress.

## 3. Plan the Journey (Differentiation and Strategy)

*Tip:* Develop strategies tailored to students' starting points. Differentiate instruction to meet diverse needs. Collaborate with other teachers for shared strategies and support, and plan how to move each student from their starting point towards the learning goals.

## 4. Detailed Daily Planning

*Tip:* Outline specific activities and teaching methods for each day. Be clear about what differentiates one day's plan from another. Ensure that daily plans are steps towards the end goal, adjusting as needed based on student progress.

## 5. Measure Progress Regularly

*Tip:* Continuously assess whether students are keeping up with the lesson plan. Use formative assessments to make sure no student is 'falling off the boat'. Adjust teaching strategies based on these assessments to ensure all students are engaged and learning effectively.

