Differentiation
Using
Curriculum Compacting

Presented by the
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Reference: The National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented  http://www.gifted.uconn.edu
Ways to Differentiate Content

• Varied Texts
• Accelerated Coverage of Material
• Varied Supplementary Materials
• Varied Graphic Organizers
  • Independent Study
  • Tiered Assignments
• Interest Development Centers
• Compacting
Goals of Compacting

• Create a challenging learning environment in the classroom and the enrichment program for all children!

• Define objectives and guarantee proficiency in basic curriculum.

• Find time for alternative learning activities based on advanced content and individual student interest.
Compacting

• Assesses what a student knows and what the student still needs to master
• Eliminates content that is already known
• Plans time to be spent in enriched or accelerated study
Types of Compacting

• Basic Skills Compacting
• Content Compacting
Step One
Identify the objectives in a given subject area.
Step Two

Find appropriate pretests.
Step Three

Identify students who should be pretested.
Step Four

Pretest students to determine their mastery level of the chosen objectives.
Step Five

Eliminate instructional time for students who show mastery of the objectives.
Step Six

Streamline instruction of those objectives students have not yet mastered but are capable of mastering more quickly than classmates.
Step Seven
Offer challenging alternatives for time provided by compacting.

Four conditions to create effective individualized instruction:

• It must be **high quality**.
• It must be **appropriate** to the students’ levels.
• Students must be **motivated** to work on the tasks.
• Students must have **adequate time** to learn.
Step Eight

Keep records of this process and the instructional options available to compacted students.
Recommendations for Implementation

- Start small
- Select one content area
- Experiment with pretesting or pre-assessment
- Compact by topic
- Decide how to document
- Find a variety of alternatives
Websites

• *Book Lists*
  http://www.ala.org/yalsa

• *The WhyFiles? Science Behind the News*
  http://whyfiles.news.wisc.edu/

• *Summer Reading Lists*
  http://www.fcps.k12.va.us/readlist/

• *Ologies*
  http://ology.amnh.org

• *Outstanding Books for the College Bound*

• *Think Quest*
  http://www.thinkquest.org/tqic/index.html
Experiment

Keep trying...reflecting on what has worked and field-testing new ideas.