

# Provide options for expression and communication

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Provide multiple means of Action and Expression' from the Guide: [Universal Design for Learning](#)

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## **Includes:**

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- Reflection questions
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Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Universal Design for Learning](#)

Strategy: [Provide multiple means of Action and Expression](#)

Suggestion: [Provide options for expression and communication](#)

Date

29 May 2025

Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/universal-design-for-learning/provide-options-for-expression-and-communication](https://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/universal-design-for-learning/provide-options-for-expression-and-communication)

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## Overview

Explore the UDL  
'options for expression'  
guideline.

Which approaches are  
already part of your  
practice?

What new options  
could you offer  
learners?



Video hosted on Youtube <http://youtu.be/6TupyBVkR7w>

Closed Captions

Source:

[UDLA LACOE](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZMomkDLikL-sWPoKTt-otQ/featured>

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## Utilise multimedia

Support communication with more than talking.

Use visuals and hands-on activities to maximise participation and understanding.



Video hosted on Youtube <http://youtu.be/4y2IaAC5vj4>

Closed Captions

Source:

[Edutopia \(US\)](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4y2IaAC5vj4&feature=youtu.be&t=3m24s>

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## Offer physical and digital tools

Support access to a variety of tools and approaches giving students options in how they present and share their learning.

### Visual tools and approaches:

- drawings, graphics, infographics, posters, acrostics, comics
- mural, display, timeline, collage, installation
- board game, magazine, brochure, digital presentation
- movie, storyboard, stop motion film, photographs, advert.

### Auditory tools and approaches:

- write and record songs, raps, slam poetry, jingles
- voice avatar (Voki or Voicethread)
- make a news report, podcast
- conversation in social media (Twitter or Facebook)
- publish a blog post, website
- design a survey and interview, talk show, debate, lecture, questions for a trivia show
- soundtrack to a novel, poem, time period, feeling.

### Physical tools and approaches:

- construct a model (for example, diorama), installation, sculpture
- create a role play, skit, tableau, dance, puppet show, demonstration, costumes.

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## Build in scaffolding



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

[View full image \(63 KB\)](#)

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## Reflection questions

What creates barriers to expression in assignments and activities? How can I minimise or remove these barriers?

What tools can I offer to increase students' ability to express knowledge (spell-checkers, calculators, manipulatives, text-to-speech)?

How am I building students skills in communicating ideas using a range of media?

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## Useful resources



### Design options for expression and communication (UDL Guideline)

This UDL guideline helps educators design learning environments that value multiple and novel modes of expression and communication.

This guideline supports the UDL Action and Expression principle.

Publisher: CAST (2024)

[Visit website](#)



### UDL tech toolkit

A comprehensive kit of tools and approaches aligned to UDL.

[Visit website](#)



### UDL Strategies

This online resource provides suggestions and resources aligned to the UDL framework. Each checkpoint in the guidelines has a photo and description.

Publisher: Enome Inc

[Visit website](#)



## Read&Write for Google Chrome

A free extension for the Chrome browser which includes highlighting tools, text-to-speech, picture dictionary, and word prediction. "Teachers can get a free premium subscription to Read&Write for Google. To register and activate your subscription, go to [rw.texthelp.com/freeforteachers](http://rw.texthelp.com/freeforteachers) after installing the Read&Write for Google trial."

Publisher: Google

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