

Universal Design Evaluation Checklist

Evaluator's Name: Brittney Bell

Date: 03/09/15

Website 1: tryscience (<http://tryscience.com>)

Website 2:

Other (optional):

Principle 1: Provide Multiple Means of Representation

Checkpoint:	Web 1	Web 2	Other
<i>Options for Perception</i>			
Ways to Customize the Display	Y		
Alternatives for Auditory Info.	Y		
Alternatives for Visual Info.	Y		
<i>Options for Language, Math. Expression, and Symbols</i>			
Clarify Vocab and Symbols			
Clarify Syntax and Structure			
Decoding of Text, Math Expressions, symbols			
Understanding Across Languages	Y		
Illustrate Through Multiple Media	Y		
<i>Options for Comprehension</i>			
Activate Background Knowledge			
Highlight Big Ideas, Patterns, Relationships	Y		
Guide Information	Y		
Maximize Transfer and Generalization			

Principle 2: Provide Multiple Means for Action and Expression

Checkpoint:	Web 1	Web 2	Other
<i>Options for Physical Action</i>			
Vary Methods of Response and Navigation	Y		
Optimize Access to Tools & Assistive Tech.			
<i>Options for Expression and Communication</i>			
Use Multiple Means of Communication	Y		
Use Construction and Composition Tools	Y		
Build Fluencies with Graduated Support			
Guide Appropriate Goal Setting			
Support Planning and Strategy Development			
Managing Information and Resources			
Enhance Capacity for Monitoring Progress			

Principle 3: Provide Multiple Means of Engagement

Checkpoint:	Web 1	Web 2	Other
<i>Options for Recruiting Interest</i>			
Optimize Individual Choice and Autonomy	Y		
Optimize Relevance, Value, and Authenticity	Y		
Minimize Threats and Distractions			
<i>Options for Sustaining Effort and Persistence</i>			
Heighten Salience of Goals and Objectives			
Vary Demands and Resources			
Foster Collaboration and Community			
Increase Mastery-Oriented Feedback			
<i>Options for Self Regulation</i>			
Promote Beliefs that Optimize Motivation			
Facilitate Personal Coping Skills and Strategies			
Develop Self-Assessment and Reflection			

In the space below, provide a thoughtful critique of each website/iBook you evaluated.

The website I evaluated, tryscience.com, is an exploratory website that is set up in a way to promote exploration of topics in science. This website provides information with audio, text, and video, addressing multiple means of representation. It also has an option at the top to change the language in which the information is presented, allowing the user to customize the display in a way that makes the language more accessible. This also briefly addresses understanding across languages, however, vocabulary supports and gradual advancement of the information is lacking.

Because the website is primarily set up for exploration, principle 2 would likely need to be facilitated by the teacher with some external activity. To build or design this into the website would change the purpose of the website. So, while many of these features are lacking, I am not sure I would recommend the addition of these features into the current structure of the site. If the site designer were wanting to restructure the site, I would suggest adding a learner response section, in which learners could interact with content and respond to it within the site, either by typing, drawing, or recording an answer. This could be more simply accomplished by adding more interactive elements and lesson plans and activities to the “teacher” section.

This website does a nice job with engagement, and looking appealing to the user. It is set up in a way that the user can choose what information is most interesting, which addresses individual choice, and should increase engaged learning time. This site also uses a variety of resources, and the teaching activities provide a variety of activity types for the educator to implement with students. It would be difficult for the website to facilitate monitoring options, but reflection could be easily integrated throughout the website by providing checkpoint questions, thoughts to ponder while watching a video, and pop up information and questions as they navigate through an activity.