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# Backwards Planning, Forward Thinking


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# Backwards Planning, Forward Thinking

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“I always know where I’m going when I teach because I’ve already been there in my planning process”

Stacy Irvin

- With a partner, discuss a favorite lesson...a lesson you absolutely love to teach!
- One of Donna and Val’s favorites: The “Where I’m From” poem
- Activity: Fill in the first several lines of the poem

# Objectives Today:

To understand backwards planning: think assessment first

To revisit our own lessons and curriculum for better teaching and improved learning

To ensure that our courses are aligned with course, department, school, and university objectives

## Back to the exercise...

Why is it your favorite lesson?

Share your lines from the poem.

What do you see as a benefit to the students  
after writing your own lines from the poem?

# Backwards Planning: Think Assessment First

What do I want them to know?

How will I get them there?

How will I differentiate the instruction along the way?

# References

- Childre, Amy, Jennifer R. Sands and Sandra Tanner Pope. “Backward Design.” *Council for Exceptional Children*.