

# Get Started With... Flexible Pacing

## 1 *Start at the End*

Identify a learning or skill goal. **Plan backwards from the goal:** identify the learning experiences (lessons, activities, formative assessments, etc.) that students need to practice to master those goals. Make sure to set pacing parameters or boundaries! Template: [Backwards Planning](#).



## 2 *Classify Lessons*

Decide which activities are **essential** and should be required, which are useful for additional **practice** or asking students to apply understanding in a new way, and which are **extensions** and allow students to pursue interests or to deepen their understanding. Template: [Lesson Classifications](#).



## 3 *Ditch the Podium*

Make **teacher-created instructional videos:** avoid whole class lectures, replicate yourself, and make your instruction available on demand.



## 4 *Choose and Track*

Set the stage for student agency, share learning paths and target dates, and encourage students to self-monitor. Template: [Playlists and Progress Trackers](#).



## 5 *Make Groups Work*

Embed collaboration in daily routines: discussions of larger themes, review of isolated skills, openers and closers, peer feedback and small group workshopping. Encourage a culture of spontaneous, organic collaboration. Plan ahead and set dates for whole class activities: labs, seminars, debates, etc.

