

Connect & Reflect

Don't draw up any design plans just yet! Before you move any furniture or rethink displays, take time to assess your space and consider how it could best support learning.



SET THE STAGE

STEP 1

Take stock

- Check out your classroom: How big is it? What shape?
- Note the locations of windows, doors, smartboards/whiteboards, cabinets, and electrical outlets.
- What kind of seating and furniture is already in your classroom?
- What materials are available that could be repurposed/recycled or thrown out?

STEP 2

Consider the three key design elements

- Naturalness: How will you bring nature into the space?
- Individualization: How will you tailor the space to the needs of your students?
- Stimulation: How will you strike a balance between *too much* and *not enough*?

STEP 3

Set goals

- What is your primary goal for your classroom environment?
(Create a strong sense of community? Foster student independence? Ensure accessibility?)
- What is your secondary goal?

Your answers to these questions will help you clarify your vision. In a few pages, you'll have the opportunity to apply your answers when you sketch a classroom layout that aligns with your goals and supports your students' needs.



Goals for my space!