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Backwards Planning, Forward Thinking

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Backwards Planning, Forward Thinking

Valerie Balkun ,Associate Professor

Donna Thomsen, Associate Professor and Dept. Chair

English Dept.

November 4, 2011

TYCA NE Conference

"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.

