

Differences vs Deficits Chart

Points of Differences

Differences	Vs	Deficits
1. Understand difference as behaving in another way.		1. Views student as having an academic or behavioral shortcoming or problem.
2. Validate variations in perspectives, beliefs, values and pattern of behavior.		2. Respond to difference by planning remediation to address deficit through a problem solving approach.
3. Stories are shared.		3. Unsuccessful intervention reinforces view of student as deficient.
4. Dialogue provides a framework for observation, inquiry and thinking about student behavior.		4. Dialogue emphasis is on “fixing strategies” of student problem.
5. Focused on expectations.		5. Focused on instruction of basic skills. Exacerbates low expectations.