Tips for an Effective Lesson Plan:

Throughout the lesson plan:

- Use bullet points
- Use the present tense
- Begin with a verb and avoid repetition such as “the teacher will then…”
- Sequencing: Does the order of events make sense? Have I included any important transitions?
- Timeline: Have I included the estimated minutes I think each section may take?

In the Engage Section:
- Include lower and higher order questions you intend to ask

In the Explain Section:
- To ensure students understand information presented/delivered use an active engagement strategy to assess students' understanding (i.e. Think-pair-share; turn & talk; Think-write-share; use of communicators or props (true/false sticks); thumbs up if you agree; stand by your positions (students stand near a sign that says “agree or disagree”). (Jones, Jones, & Vermette, 2011; Himmelle & Himmell, 2011; Darling-Hammond & Bransford, 2004)

In the Evaluation section:
- Attach worksheet, activities, or evaluation tools
- Is your evaluation tool aligned to your learning goals? (Wiggins & McTighe, 2005)
- Is your learning goal doable, tangible, and measurable?

In the Planning section:
- Describe visuals you intend to use or make in the class: models, props, intended creation of anchor charts


Himmele & Himmele (2011). Total Participation Techniques: Making Every Student an Active Learner. ASCD.

