

Connecting with the Expertise of Special Education

Special educators have a tremendous amount of expertise to share, especially about individualizing instruction for students with specific kinds of disabilities and taking into account each child's special needs. Take advantage of the knowledge base that's built up over years of providing special education services to children with disabilities, starting with the section below on Special Education Websites. These will take you into the heart of more, more, more.

Special Education Websites:

- About.com's Links to Special Education Teaching Strategies and Best Practices: http://specialed.about.com/od/teacherstrategies/Teaching_Strategies_and_Best_Practices
- Instructional Strategies on the Internet: www.newhorizons.org/spneeds/inclusion/teaching/front_teaching. Links to special education teaching and learning technique sites reviewed by the Washington State Department of Education.
- Intervention Techniques: <http://special.edschool.virginia.edu/information/interventions>. Special education majors at the UVA review journal articles on teaching techniques for students with disabilities.
- *Teachers Helping Teachers*: www.pacificnet.net/~mandel/SpecialEducation. Special Education lesson plans submitted by teachers.
- *TeacherVision.com*: www.teachervision.fen.com. Use TeacherVision's search box at the top of the page to find resources fast. Search under the words "Curriculum", "Disabilities" or the phrase "Special Education" & you'll find scads of articles & web resources.
- Teaching special-needs students in the regular classroom: www.educationworld.com/a_curr/columnists/mcdonald/mcdonald022.
- Special education resources for general educators: <http://serge.ccsso.org>.
- *Math matrix*: www.citeducation.org/mathmatrix. The math matrix matches technology tools with supporting literature on promising practices for the instruction of math for students with disabilities. Search for products and evidence among the six purposes of technology that support reading for students with special needs. From CITED.
- *Reading matrix*: www.techmatrix.org/Infopage?page=Reading_for_Struggling_Students. This matrix matches technology tools with supporting literature on promising practices for the instruction of reading for students with disabilities. From the National Center for Technology Innovation.
- *WatchKnow.org*: www.watchknow.org/default.aspx. WatchKnow has indexed over 15,000 online educational videos for children, putting them into a directory of over 3,000 categories. The videos are available without any registration or fees to teachers in the classroom and to students at home 24/7. There are also a scad of short videos focusing on how to teach students with disabilities. The link below takes you to the main page. Down the left you'll see videos by subject (e.g., teaching science) and you'll see a search box. Enter the terms "disabilities" or "special education" and reap the harvest!

Resources on Teaching Students with Specific Disabilities



AD/HD (Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder)

- How can teachers help students with AD/HD? www.educationworld.com/a_issues/issues148c.
- Helping children with AD/HD succeed at school. http://helpguide.org/mental/adhd_add_teaching_strategies.
- AD/HD instructional strategies and practices. From the U.S. Department of Education. <http://www2.ed.gov/rschstat/research/pubs/adhd/adhd-teaching-2006.pdf>

Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)

- Teaching Students with Autism. A guide from the NEA (National Education Association). www.nea.org/home/18459.
- Autism: Interventions and strategies for success. <http://www.specialed.us/autism/index2>.
- Autism-World. <http://www.autism-world.com/index.php/2007/03/25/effective-strategies-for-teaching-children-with-autism-spectrum-disorders>

Behavioral/Emotional Disorders

- Best practices for behavior disorders in the classroom. <http://specialed.about.com/cs/behaviordisorders/a/Behavior>.
- Strategies for teaching students with behavioral disorders. <http://education.cu-portland.edu/blog/teaching-strategies/strategies-for-teaching-students-with-behavioral-problems>
- Behavior at school. <http://www.parentcenterhub.org/repository/behavior-atschool>

Intellectual Disabilities

- Down syndrome. <http://gigisplayhouse.org/quadcities/uncategorized/five-instructional-strategies-for-children-with-down-syndrome>
- <http://www.brighthubeducation.com/special-ed-inclusion-strategies/29680-teaching-strategies-for-children-with-down-syndrome>
- Intellectual Disabilities www.cdc.gov/.../actearly/pdf/parents_pdfs/IntellectualDisability.pdf
- www.thearc.org/what-we-do/resources/fact-sheets
- <http://www.report.nih.gov/NIHfactsheets/ViewFactSheet.aspx?csid=100>

Learning Disabilities (LD)

- Visit LDonline. This is a premier source of info on LD for educators. www.ldonline.org/indepth/teaching
- TeachingLD, a must-visit, too! TeachingLD is a service of the Division for Learning Disabilities (DLD) of the Council for Exceptional Children. <http://www.teachingld.org>
- National Center for Learning Disabilities. <http://www.nclld.org/at-school/especially-for-teachers>

Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

- The TBI Educator site. <http://www.tbied.org>
- Understanding and teaching students with TBI. www.fldoe.org/ese/pdf/trauma.pdf

Visual Impairments, including Blindness

- From West Virginia University. <http://www.as.wvu.edu/~scidis/vision>.
- From Family Connect, on educating students with visual impairments. <http://www.familyconnect.org/parentsitehome.asp?SectionID=72>

All Disabilities

- Understood <http://www.nclld.org>
- National dissemination center for Children with Disabilities, September, 2010



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PATH Project: 1-800-866-4726



PEN Project: 1-877-762-1435



TEAM Project: 1-877-832-8945

www.partnerstx.org