

News Notes

A Newsletter for Teachers of Students with Significant
Cognitive Disabilities
Educational Equity for All



August 2019

Welcome Back! I have included lots of new ideas to help you kick off the year in style.

teaching **SPECIAL** thinkers



CLASSROOM ORGANIZATION
FOR YOUR SPED CLASSROOM

<https://t.ly/kOwV>

Adapting for Autism

Work Tasks for your Special Education Classroom

THREE AWESOME
ALTERNATIVES
TO LAMINATING



Stop Laminating
Everything in your
Classroom!

There are better, more eco-
friendly and cheaper
options available!

1. Vinyl Pockets
2. Docu-sleeves
3. Bookmark Sleeves

<https://t.ly/rbM9>

AUTISM Classroom NEWS & RESOURCES

Get Your Special Education Classroom Up &
Running Quickly: 7 Must-Have Classroom Tools

Also see series of posts of 10 Steps to a Well Run Classroom

Essential Classroom Tools

- VISUALS
- HOME-SCHOOL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM
- INDEPENDENT WORK
- SYSTEM SET UPS
- COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS
- MORNING MEETING CLASSROOM TOOLS
- CURRICULUM
- BEHAVIORAL SUPPORTS

<https://www.autismclassroomresources.com/autism-classroom-materials/>

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Morning Meeting Routine



SIMPLYSPECIAL.ED.COM

<https://www.simplyspecial.eds.com/morning-meeting-routine/>

EDUCATIONAL
EQUITY FOR ALL
..... Giving kids what they need to succeed.

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FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH



Cozy Shades Softening Light Filters filter out annoying hues in classrooms or cafeterias, softening the light for a

“cozier” space. Six magnets allow for single or double swags on each fixture.. <https://t.ly/zD1k>



Hook and Loop Velcro Use In Special Education Classrooms

Maintain A Safe Environment

Hook and Loop tape can help maintain a safe environment by keeping objects in place. Some great examples are electronic wires that get tangled up if not kept neat, a rug that doesn't stay in place and slippery seat cushions.

Interactive Activities

Interactive activities are not only fun but they help Special Education students gain a further understanding of the lesson at hand as well as basic communication skills. Using our hook and loop tape on the back of student name tags and placing them on the corresponding desk is a great way to learn names and assign seats.

Picture Communication

Some Special Education students have trouble communicating audibly. Teachers can better understand their students if they give them the option to express themselves through several different pictures that they can place on a communication board. It also helps teach students how to comprehend language by making connections between pictures and desired objects



TIP: Be sure to maintain consistency about which side of the Velcro travels and which is stationary. Another reason to like our 'Hard on the Card. Soft on the Surface' rule is that it allows you to

use carpet squares for storing Velcro across the classroom. I even know some classrooms that have carpeted walls for this purpose! I bought rugs at the dollar store and stapled them to my walls in various areas to stick Velcro on.

8 TIPS/TRICKS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT VELCRO <https://t.ly/xDjq>

ALTERNATIVE AND AUGMENTATIVE COMMUNICATION

54 TIPS AND TRICKS FOR IMPLEMENTING ALTERNATIVE AND AUGMENTATIVE COMMUNICATION IN THE CLASSROOM



‘54 Top Tips and Tricks for implementing an AAC device into your classroom’ <https://t.ly/qWvp>

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<https://www.filefolderheaven.com/>
<http://www.shaker.org/datastaff.aspx>
<https://t.ly/31wb>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



<https://www.simplek12.com/webinar/>

Our mission is to help educators inspire their students, engage their learners, perfect their craft, and share their experiences to help others do the same. Never stop growing. Never stop learning. Never stop sharing.



Simplify & organize your student documentation by helping you improve data and goal tracking, behavior logs,

& ensure you're on the right path to progress. <https://www.birdhousehq.com/teachers/>

Teaching the Alphabet

Go from this



Why not teach the alphabet in a functional way that will help kids learn necessary tools for the world today? Use paper keyboards and doobers to learn letters of name.

To this (wall keyboard- have regular construction paper and have students hit each letter of name)

