

# News Notes

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



October 2016



Perkins SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND | eLearning

Teaching Strategies  
for Students Who  
are Blind/VI with

## Multiple Disabilities in the Sensorimotor Stage of Development

This NEW online class on [Sensorimotor](#) will offer practical teaching strategies for students with visual impairments and multiple disabilities in the sensorimotor stage of development. Through lectures, videos, discussions, readings and case studies, participants will develop integrate knowledge, which can be applied to their own students. This class uses the Sensorimotor Guidebook and Assessment Forms created by Millie Smith, *M.Ed, TVI* to address the unique needs of students with visual impairments and multiple disabilities at the sensorimotor level of development.

Class starts on **October 17 – November 27, 2016** and runs for **six weeks**.

Early bird expires on **October 3<sup>rd</sup>**. [Reserve your seat today!](#) For more information, email Perkins eLearning at [perkins.elearning@Perkins.org](mailto:perkins.elearning@Perkins.org), or call **617.972.7841**.



## Swoon! Channing Tatum Could Not Be Sweeter in This Interview With an Autistic Reporter

Bold and sassy reporter Carly Fleischmann, a non-verbal autistic woman, makes Channing Tatum laugh and blush in this hilarious interview.

<http://www.parents.com/health/special-needs-now/channing-tatum-could-not-be-sweeter-in-this-interview-with-an-autistic/>



## Down Syndrome Awareness Month

October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month, a chance to spread awareness. During the month of October, we celebrate people with Down syndrome and make people aware of our abilities and accomplishments. It's not about celebrating disabilities, it's about celebrating abilities.

Down syndrome is by far the most common and best known chromosomal disorder in humans and the most common cause of intellectual disability.

<http://www.ndss.org/About-NDSS/Our-Team/Ambassadors/Goodwill-Ambassador/Straight-Talk-with-Chris-Burke/Down-Syndrome-Awareness-Month/>



five instructional  
strategies for  
children with down

Children with Down syndrome associated with their learning development:

1. They are visual learners.
2. They understand a lot more than they can say.
3. They are able to follow classroom rules and routines.
4. They need help to remember instructions – use shorter phrases or visual clues.
5. Teacher's expectations of behavior, attitude and ability should be high.
6. Children with Down syndrome can learn.

<http://gigisplayhouse.org/quadcities/uncategorized/five-instructional-strategies-for-children-with-down-syndrome>

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

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## FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH



[http://helpforstrugglingreaders.blogspot.com/2014/01/more-great-apps-for-children-with-down.html?utm\\_campaign=Feed%3A+HelpForStrugglingReaders+%28Help+for+Struggling+Readers%29&utm\\_medium=email&m=1&utm\\_source=feedburner](http://helpforstrugglingreaders.blogspot.com/2014/01/more-great-apps-for-children-with-down.html?utm_campaign=Feed%3A+HelpForStrugglingReaders+%28Help+for+Struggling+Readers%29&utm_medium=email&m=1&utm_source=feedburner)

## ALTERNATIVE AND AUGMENTATIVE COMMUNICATION

**Scope**  
About disability

### Tips on communication

1. Reduce background noise
2. Face the person you are talking to and make eye contact
3. Say if it's the first time you have talked to a person who uses an alternative method of communication
4. Ask what helps
5. Establish how they communicate 'yes' and 'no'
6. When you ask a question, wait for a reply
7. Be patient
8. Always be honest about how much you have understood
9. If you don't have enough time, then agree to meet later
10. Check back and recap

<http://www.scope.org.uk/support/families/communication>

### WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<http://adaptingcreatively.blogspot.com/2011/02/supporting-rett-syndrome-educators.html>  
<https://www.kcdsg.org/files/content/Supporting%20the%20Student%20with%20Down%20Syndrome%20in%20Your%20Classroom-Teacher%20Manual.pdf>  
<http://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/Communications/Topil-SensoryPresentation.pdf>



### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



PBS LearningMedia provides PreK-12 educators with access to free digital content and professional development opportunities designed to improve teacher effectiveness and student achievement.

<http://ca.pbslearningmedia.org/>

### OCT 3, 2016 WEBINAR

Hacking Vocabulary: Tips, Tricks, and Tools for Decoding Words

During this webinar, library media specialist and PBS Digital Innovator Joquetta Johnson will provide participants with resources to support teaching and learning vocabulary in 21st century learning environments. Monday 7pm – 8pm EDT

### October 19 VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP

Student Event: Gulf Detectives: Animals of the Northern Gulf of Mexico

Take your class on a virtual field trip! This event will focus on the Animals of the Northern Gulf of Mexico, and will feature a shark discussion, and a visit to an oyster reef restoration project. The episode will teach concepts of animal habitats, animal adaptations, food webs, ecosystems, biology, and environmental science. Wednesday 10am – 11am EST

<http://www.pbslearningmedia.org/events/>



## Free Visual Recipes

<http://teachinglearnerswithmultipleneeds.blogspot.com/2009/07/visual-recipes.html>

Cooking is a favorite activity in many life skills and severe special needs classrooms. Here are some links to websites with picture recipes.

- Boardmaker Share
- Bry Back Manor
- Cooking in the Classroom (scroll all the way down)
- Making Learning Fun
- Nellie Edge
- Non-Reader Recipes
- Picture Cookbook Gallery
- Rebus Recipes
- Speaking of Speech
- Students with Differences Picture Recipes
- Symbol World
- VisualRecipes.Com
- Voice4U Recipes
- Widget - Food Tastes Better Outdoors Resource Pack

### Single Picture Recipes

- Banana Chocolate Chip Pancakes
- Jim's Apple Pie
- Not Yo' Nana's Fishsticks
- Satsuma Orange Juice
- Strawberry Banana Smoothie