

Paraeducator Practices

Paraeducator Practices

A Newsletter for Paraeducators and Their Teachers Educational Equity for All



April 2019

Paraeducator Symbol



Just as the extra pair of wings enables the dragonfly to accomplish astounding aeronautic gymnastics, paraeducators have become the extra pair of hands that allows teachers to truly support and
MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR EVERY STUDENT

Teaching Students With Autism Spectrum Disorder: Tips, Resources, and Information On Supporting Students with Autism

Dispelling Myths About Autism

Every year in April, we celebrate Autism Awareness Month to shed light on misconceptions about autism and help students with ASD find the support they need. Here are a few myths along with the real facts to help you understand more about your students with autism.

- “All children with autism have intellectual disabilities.”
“Only boys can develop autism. Girls with autism are rare or nonexistent.”
- “Students with autism cannot make friends or feel emotions.”
- “Autism can be cured.”
- “Children with autism will never achieve as much as their peers.”

<https://goo.gl/pmqb5c>

Understanding the Paraprofessional's Role in Schools

A paraprofessional is an educational worker who is not licensed to teach, but performs many duties both individually with students and organizationally in the classroom. In general, paraprofessionals should be working in support of the teacher, and not doing the teaching by themselves. When there are problems, it is often because paraprofessionals are being asked to do things they are not trained to do or have been pressed into service to do administrative tasks for the school outside of their support role in the classroom.

Paraprofessionals often work in special education classrooms. They can work with a child who has a behavior intervention plan to take notes and use the strategies that have been identified to help the child with the problem behaviors. She may encourage positive behavior or redirect the child who is engaging in off-task behavior.

For children with physical challenges, the paraprofessional can assist with feeding and using the bathroom and might help transport a wheelchair-bound child or child prone to wandering to get around the school.

Paraprofessionals often provide one-on-one instructional assistance under the direct supervision of the qualified teacher.

<https://www.verywellfamily.com/what-is-a-paraprofessional-3106873>

FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH



Classroom Management Tricks <https://bit.ly/2I6cNie>



Turn Floor Clean Up into a Game

First, you look around the floor of your classroom and you tell your kids, "Boys and girls, there's a magic scrap on the floor. Whoever finds it gets a prize box ticket" (or whatever prize you choose).

ENHANCING CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENTS FOR STUDENTS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS

In 2018, the CDC reported that 1 in 59 children had been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders (ASD) by the age of 8 — an 18% increase over the previous year.

Understanding The Special Needs Of Those With Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)



Dr. Temple Grandin, Speaking At A TED Conference, Explains How She Thinks In Pictures Rather Than Verbally, As Most NT People Do. Clair Danes Also Stars In An Eponymous Biopic Movie Of Temple Grandin.

Tips For Effective Classroom Design For Students With ASD

1. Visual Design Considerations For Students With ASD
 2. Spatial Boundary Design And Wayfinding Design Considerations For Students With ASD
 3. Non-Visual Elements (Auditory, Olfactory, And Thermoception) Design Considerations For Students With ASD
 4. Material Design And Physical Safety Considerations For Students With ASD
- <https://bit.ly/2I9T9lv>

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

- <https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ967110.pdf>
- <https://www.teachloveautism.com/>
- <https://bit.ly/2I4IYhN>
- <https://bit.ly/2I6EcQP>

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



2018-2019 Special Education Paraprofessional Training Series

Understanding the Components and Implementation of a Behavior Plan

To complete each session watch the video presentation and complete the review questions. The review questions will be made available once you have watched the full video presentation. The review questions are in multiple-choice format and you will receive immediate feedback.

<https://pattan.framewelder.com/courses/paraprofessionals/category/2018-2019-special-education-paraprofessi>

The Autism Helper.

Focus on Five: Teaching Paraprofessionals About Data Collection

1. Explain Why
2. Model
3. Take Turns
4. Talk About the Data
5. Give Feedback...

<https://bit.ly/2IbrfFN>



Supporting pupils with autism

Guidance and teaching materials to ensure learners with autism are included in the classroom

Tips for teachers

Teaching guides, workbooks, short videos... Explore the reality of life for pupils with autism before adapting your classroom to cater for the needs of all learners with the help of these innovative ideas.

<https://bit.ly/2I6c54y>