

Paraeducator Practices Paraeducator Practices

A Newsletter for Paraeducators and Their
Teachers Educational Equity for All



February 2020

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

Suggestions for interacting one-on-one with a student with a physical disability

The following are some practical tips for teaching students with physical disabilities.

- Remove obstacles and arrange furniture to ensure clear passage to where you will sit and conduct any meeting.
- Consider an assistive device as an extension of the person's personal space.
- Remember that most power wheelchairs are controlled by a hand-held device and should be left for the individual to control.
- If a conversation is expected to last longer than a few moments, suggest an area nearby that is comfortable for all parties to be seated.
- Speak directly to the person, not to an accompanying support person.
- If you are not sure what to do, ask, "Can I help?"

t.ly/Jvrzm



If your goal is to bring out the best in your students, we have some great pointers for how to bring out the best in your special needs students specifically!

1. Individualization
2. Identify Their Strengths
3. Inclusivity
4. Provide Frequent Progress Reports
5. Positive Role Models
6. Ask Them What They Need
7. Patience
8. Be Realistic
9. Keep an Open Mind
10. Try New Things!

An honorable mention #11 should be to love these students with all you've got because you'll be given that back tenfold when you really try to highlight the qualities that shine brightest in these individuals.

t.ly/v8KxA

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

Tana Donaghy, President, Educational Equity For All
Misstanad@educationequityforall.org; 909-964-5057
<http://www.educationequity4all.com/>

FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH



Play Ideas for Children with Special Needs

6 Benefits of Play

Play isn't all fun and games — it's also an important teaching tool! Through play, kids learn how to interact with others and develop critical lifelong skills. These 6 benefits all play an important role in raising well-rounded children.

Play Talk

Experts on education, childhood, and play share the latest information and research about the importance of play, childhood development, and tips you can use.

<https://www.thegeniusofplay.org/>

Instructional Strategies for Students with Cognitive Disabilities

- Teach self-monitoring techniques. (Students set goals to complete assignment and check off each step as they complete problem).
- Have students work each step in an assignment in different colors.
- Encourage students to subvocalize while learning.
- Assign a peer tutor and allow the peer or adult to read the text aloud to the student.
- Use cooperative learning techniques to allow students to “reteach” concepts.
- Model and teach metacognitive strategies.
- Teach note-taking skills.
- Provide visual cues and props to reinforce and demonstrate from lectures.
- Maximize students’ potential for success by providing a balance of visual and auditory stimuli in your teaching.
- Teach students to use self-questioning techniques.
- Provide students with a written schedule of classroom routines and timelines.
- Provide multiple opportunities to practice in different formats.
- Use flashcards for individual or group review.
- Use songs, rhymes or rhythms to help students remember information.
- Chunk pieces of information together and in sets.
- Use acronyms to help remember words or phrases.
- Use individual and class lists for added visual representation.
- Use semantic maps and diagrams to help students remember the connections between concepts.
- Reteach items of information as often as possible, varying the approach a little each time.
- Teach the meaning of key vocabulary words.

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

t.ly/Ewp27

t.ly/nvmMe

t.ly/ZKrijr



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Diagnostic Center, Southern California

February 11, 2020 8:30-11:30

A-4 Autism Spectrum Disorder

(ASD): What Every Paraeducator Should Know

Presenter: Dr. Scott Gutentag Ontario-Montclair School District SELPA RCC Region 10

Jessica Fernandez (909) 418-6324

jessica.fernandez@omsd.net

February 25, 2020 8:30-2:30

S-4 School is a Playground, Here are the Rules...

Presenter: Allease Glamore East San Gabriel Valley

SELPA RCC Region 11 Maria Davis

(626) 966-1679 mdavis@c-vusd.org

February 27, 2020 8:30-2:30

R-8 Inclusive Education for Students with Moderate-Severe Disabilities

Presenter: Nicole Ward Tri-City SELPA RCC Region 11

Mayra Romero (310) 842-4220 x 4310

mayraromero@ccusd.org



Instructional Strategies for Students with Cognitive Disabilities Continued.

- Introduce only one concept at a time and teach to mastery.
- Provide many practice opportunities and include problem solving, reasoning and real-life application to help with transfer of information.
- Provide learning aids such as manipulatives and models to help students focus on conceptual understanding and skill building.
- Provide cooperative learning strategies with large and small groups.
- Teach students how the textbook is organized, including the format for each page or section.
- Provide video-taped and audio-taped lessons.
- Have available textbooks on CD ROM.
- Make connections between language arts and other disciplines.
- Scaffold the instruction.
- Use visual aids (posters, models, videos, slides, pictures, bulletin boards, notebooks).
- Teach students how to look for the same or similar content in another medium (movie, filmstrip, audio tape, video tape, sticker book, photo album, field trip).

t.ly/m8yKx