



Parent Partnerships

A Newsletter for Parents with Children who have Moderate to Severe Disabilities
Educational Equity For All

January 2017

California Department of Education



California schools chief urges districts to declare themselves 'safe havens'

Tom Torlakson, the state superintendent of public instruction, is asking school districts to declare themselves "safe havens" for all students following an election filled with anti-immigrant rhetoric. (Rich Pedroncelli / Associated Press)
<http://www.latimes.com/local/education/la-me-school-safe-havens-20161221-story.html>



Six sleep tips for your child with special needs

- 1: The right environment for sleep
- 2: Learning to Sleep
- 3: Eliminate
- 4: Have You Considered...
- 5: Shopping List
- 6: Don't Suffer Alone

<https://www.specialneedsjungle.com/6-ways-help-child-sen-sleep/>



Welcome to the Special Needs Resource Project Information and Special Needs Resources for Parents of Children with Special Needs or Disabilities

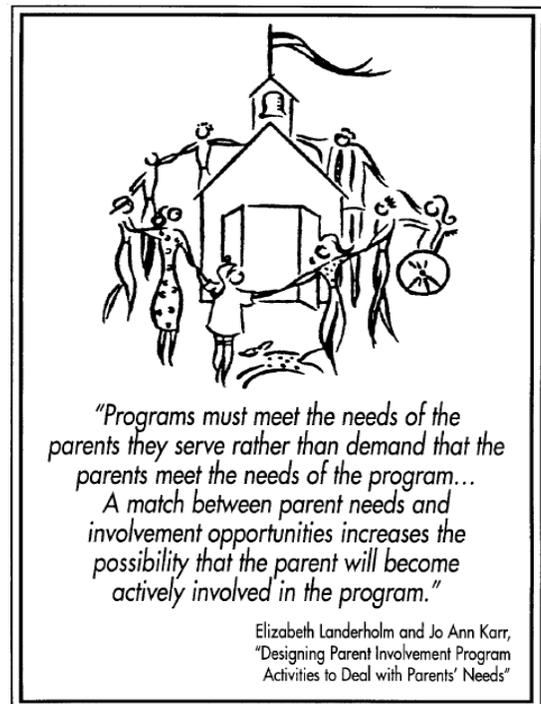
Special Needs Resource Project (SNRP) provides a basic guide for parents of children with chronic health issues, disabilities and special needs. This site is designed to help you get a jump-start in your search for helpful information and resources. Every situation is unique. Our aim is to help you learn the basic skills you'll need to obtain the specific resource information, equipment, and services your child and family needs. Though focused on children ages 0-22, most of the information we offer is applicable to adults as well.

SNRP staff manages thousands of current resource links specifically for government programs, charities and nonprofit organizations serving individuals and families with disabilities in all 50 states, Washington D.C., the US Military and Native Americans.

Links included are essential starting points to assist you in becoming more familiar with local resources and getting started with the services available within your state government and some local private programs.

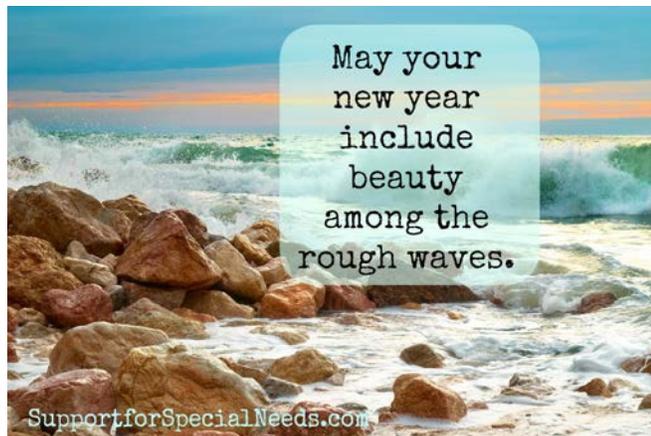
<http://www.snproject.com/Resource/Links/CALIFORNIA>

The **Down's Syndrome Association** has lots of information on its website, from sleep programmes to possible medical intervention. <https://goo.gl/tOHXbl>



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Feature Idea of Month



TEACHING SKILLS TO CHILDREN WITH DISABILITY: PRACTICAL STRATEGIES

Children with disability can find it hard to learn skills for daily living – for example, personal care and social skills. Here are practical strategies you can use for teaching skills like these to your child with disability.

Helping children with disability develop skills

Children with disability often take longer to learn how to do everyday things like dressing themselves and cleaning their teeth. They can also find it hard to learn social skills like sharing and taking turns.

This article takes you through **three practical strategies for teaching skills** to your child with disability:

- instructions: teaching by telling
- modelling: teaching by showing
- teaching step by step.

Teaching skills can be pretty exhausting and might take a lot of time and patience. So before you start to teach your child, it's a good idea to **think about what you're asking your child to do**. For example, is your child physically capable of learning the skill? Does she have good enough coordination? Is she able to understand what you want her to do?

The answers to these questions will help you work out whether you can teach your child skills, which skills you can teach, and which of the strategies below best suits your situation.

It can be confusing for your child if you try to work on too many skills at once. Aim to teach one main skill at a time using the strategy that best suits your situation. You might be surprised to see some other skills developing at the same time



<https://goo.gl/JepFz6>

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<https://goo.gl/fyOjt0>
<https://goo.gl/YKHiLR>
<https://childdevelopmentinfo.com/>

Air Travel Resources

Autism Speaks is proud to partner with JetBlue Airways on the **[Blue Horizons for Autism program](#)** that allows families to practice the travel experience in a real life setting.

To help families prepare for the event and other air travel experiences, we have developed a teaching story **[Adventures in Autism: A Guide to the Airport Experience](#)**.

Airlines also have special assistance teams to help with your travel experience. Be sure to reach out to the airline's disability services to let them know about your child or adult with autism and any accommodations you may need to make the experience as successful as possible. A few links are below:

[JetBlue](#)
[American Airlines](#)
[United Airways](#)
[Delta](#)
[Southwest Airlines](#)

<https://www.autismspeaks.org/air-travel-resources>



OUR MISSION

Family Voices aims to achieve family-centered care for all children and youth with special health care needs and/or disabilities.

Throughout our national grassroots network, we provide families resources and support to make informed decisions, advocate for improved public and private policies, build partnerships among families and professionals, and serve as a trusted resource on health care.

OUR VISION

Every child and youth with special needs receives family-centered care.

Support for Families of Children with Disabilities, also known as Family Voices of California, is the Family Voices State Affiliate Organization (SAO) and the Family-to-Family Health Information Center (F2FHIC) in California.
<http://www.familyvoices.org/states?id=0054>

