

# News Notes

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



December 2019

Register today for The Elf on the Shelf® Teacher Resource Center and you'll receive the most up-to-date news and announcements about our teacher-specific programs and perks. After you register, be sure to explore all of our Santa-approved classroom tools and benefits:

FREE lesson plans that support the Common Core State Standards Initiative\*

FREE holiday-themed activity sheets that students will love

Teacher promotions and giveaways



[https://www.elfontheshelf.com/teacher-resource-center?from=hp\\_card](https://www.elfontheshelf.com/teacher-resource-center?from=hp_card)

Remember that holidays can be a huge distraction for students with special needs. Too much sensory overload can derail the best behavior plans

## December Holiday Lesson Plans and Activities - Christmas, Kwanzaa, Hanukkah and More

### December: A month of multicultural holiday celebrations

Do your students celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa, or Three Kings Day? Maybe they celebrate St. Lucia Day or Ramadan. December offers great opportunities for teaching about our multicultural world. Included: Teaching lessons and resources.

<http://www.educationworld.com/holidays/archives/december.shtml>



## Winter Solstice – Videos & Activities

The winter solstice occurs on Tuesday, December 21, 2016. Use these educational videos and related activities to teach students about the changing seasons.

<https://goo.gl/vePey8>



Learn about Planet Earth – Seasons

**Appropriate Grades: 1–5**



Why the Days are Shorter in Winter and Longer in Summer

**Appropriate Grades: 5–8**



What Causes Earth's Seasons?

**Appropriate Grades: 9–12**

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

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<http://www.educationaequity4all.com/>

## FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH

### Makedo Cardboard Christmas tree



<http://www.instructables.com/id/Makedo-Christmas-tree/>

## ALTERNATIVE AND AUGMENTATIVE COMMUNICATION



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



54 TIPS AND TRICKS FOR IMPLEMENTING ALTERNATIVE AND AUGMENTATIVE COMMUNICATION IN THE CLASSROOM By Lesley Gallagher & Amy Litton Speech Pathologists, ILC Tech © Independent Living Centre WA 2014

<http://ilc.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Top-tips-for-implementing-AAC.pdf>

## WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<https://goo.gl/W2hXfB>

<https://goo.gl/qoRqsq>

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/teacher>



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

New! Online Professional Development System

Training for all educators



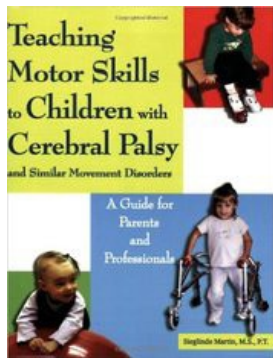
## The Very Best Special Education-Related Training

With the Exceptional Child Online Professional Development System, every educator can benefit from the expertise of leading special education experts, in one convenient online system. And our management system makes assigning, tracking and customizing training easy! Fee Based, but you can purchase one course or a whole subscription.

### TOPICS

- ADHD
- Autism Spectrum
- Behavior
- General
- IEP
- Instruction and Learning
- Special Education Law

<https://www.exceptionalchild.com/course/list>



Teaching Motor Skills to Children with Cerebral Palsy And Similar Movement Disorders: A Guide for Parents and Professionals by Sieglide Martin

## Music for Special Needs Holiday and Seasonal Activities



- Christmas Carols and Holiday Songs for Music Therapy »
- Snow and Winter Music Therapy Learning Chants »
- Winter Holiday Piggyback Songs for Music Therapy »

<http://www.tunedintolearning.com/freebies/printables/>



Action Hero: Autism Music and Speech Therapy Song <https://goo.gl/X8FQeE>