



How do I continue to support my students with significant cognitive disabilities?

FAPE

- When a school is closed due to a COVID-19 outbreak, but is implementing its Continuous Learning Plan, the school must **ensure that each student with an exceptionality also has equal access to the same opportunities**, including, to the greatest extent possible under these unprecedented circumstances, a free appropriate public education (FAPE). School districts must provide a FAPE consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of students with exceptionalities and those individuals providing education, specialized instruction, and related services to these students. In this unique and ever-changing environment, these exceptional circumstances may affect how all educational and related services and supports are provided. FAPE may include, as appropriate, **special education and related services provided through distance instruction provided virtually, through instructional materials sent home, or telephonically**. The determination of how FAPE is to be provided may need to be different during the time when a school is closed and implementing its Continuous Learning Plan. As mentioned above, FAPE may be provided consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of students with disabilities and those individuals providing special education and related services to students. This guidance is consistent with and based upon the OCR and OSERS guidance issued on March 21, 2020; educators should read that document fully for more guidance regarding how to provide special education and related services in a distance learning environment.



- The services and supports in a child's IEP prior to the implementation of the district's Continuous Learning Plan contemplated the traditional educational environment, which most students are no longer in. The child's IEP Team should **think of the district's Continuous Learning Plan as the general education curriculum in place at this time**. All services and supports are intended to support the child in accessing the general education curriculum with their nondisabled peers to the maximum extent appropriate. The child's IEP Team should **develop a contingency learning plan** to enable the child:
 - (1) To advance appropriately toward attaining the child's annual IEP goals;
 - (2) to be involved in and make progress in the general education curriculum (in this instance, the district's Continuous Learning Plan), or appropriate activities for children ages 3–5;
 - (3) to participate in extracurricular and other nonacademic activities; and
 - (4) to be educated and participate with their nondisabled peers to the maximum extent appropriate, in all of these activities (in this instance to participate in the continuous learning plan with their nondisabled peers).

K.S.A. 72-3429(c)(4)



- The child's IEP Team should think about the definition of specially designed instruction, in the context of the district's Continuous Learning Plan. "Specially designed instruction" means adapting, as appropriate to the needs of each exceptional child, the content, methodology or delivery of instruction for the following purposes:
 1. To address the unique needs of the child that result from the child's exceptionality; and
 2. to ensure access of any child with a disability to the general curriculum [in this instance, the district's Continuous Learning Plan], so that the child can meet the educational standards within the jurisdiction of the agency that apply to all children. K.A.R. 91-40-1(III).
- The child's IEP Team should think about related services in the context of what specially designed instruction (special education services) means within the district's Continuous Learning Plan. Related services are developmental, corrective, and supportive services required to assist a child, who has been identified as a child with an exceptionality, to benefit from special education services. K.A.R. 91-40-1(ccc).
- The child's IEP Team should think about supplementary aids and services, program modifications, and supports for school personnel in the context of "to enable children with disabilities to be educated with children without disabilities to the maximum extent appropriate" (in this instance to participate in the district's Continuous Learning Plan with their nondisabled peers). K.S.A. 72-3429(c)(4); K.A.R. 91-40-1(ttt).



Strategies for Teaching Special Education Online



Teaching Special Education Online During COVID 19 –
CEC Webinar

8 Strategies

1. Engage with your students – be present, authentic, personal, enthusiastic
2. Set clear expectations – reset, redirect, help students reassess
3. Create a supportive learning environment and get personal
4. Foster personal relationships and have fun
5. Use a mix of exiting tools readily available
6. Zoom – can use break out rooms then bring everyone back
7. Smaller chunks and patterns of activity (prepare, teach, apply, reflect)
8. Provide prompt feedback (instruction, assess, feedback, then adjust instruction or learning focus)



IDEAS

- A story a day while we're away
- Use low tech and no tech options
- Use choice boards



Christine Reeve

Ep 31 Making Distance Education Work in Special Education



Resources shared

- Facebook group – Autism Classroom Resources' Special Educators Connection
- Website – Autism Classroom news and resources
www.autismclassroomresources.com
 - Blog
 - Podcast
 - Shop
 - Special Educator Academy (free 7 days then \$20 per month)
 - Free Resource Library – independent work systems, challenging behaviors, data systems, free printables, behavior support videos



Recommendations/Ideas

- Choose activities that can be easily adapted to home environment
- Free printables – free scavenger hunts – focus on language in the environment
- Activities to do everyday
- Change background on zoom/google classroom (less distracting)



Recommendations Continued

- Parents can video task, take picture, or teacher can observe activity through zoom
 - Parent can report (a lot of help, a little help, no help)
- Choose activities that give us a work product
- Involve students in everyday activities
- There is no right way to do this, because we have never done this before.
- Don't stress about things you can not change
- Use video modeling of activities
- Communication temptations – how to temp nonverbal student to communicate



How do I begin?

- “Less is more.” – start small
- Parent meeting – How is it going? What is our schedule like? What can I help you with?
- “Doing something is better than doing nothing.”
- Use token board/working for board – can deliver, email pdf, mail
- Send home core communication boards
- Visual schedules/task schedule – don’t need to do this for the whole day – start small 3 things(reading, math, independent work).
- Give lots of breaks, pause and be thoughtful



Online resources

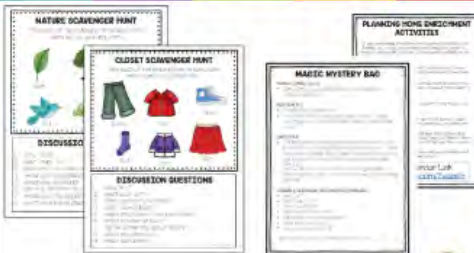
- TeachTown basics–free (discrete trials online)
- Unique Learning Systems/N2Y– free has data collection built in (Use benchmark testing available with N2Y /Unique)
- Google voice
- Classtag.com – parent teacher communication (free)
www.home.classtag.com
- Jacob’s lessons – discrete trial online and free
www.jacobslessons.com
- Vizzle NextGen– track IEP goals www.home.govizzle.com
- Bitsboard – (app) file folder activities, lessons, mini games
- Connectability – free symbols www.connectability.ca
- Affirm.fpg.unc.edu – visual schedules for stay at home (free)



Autism classroom news and resources

Resource Library – Free Printables

Special Education
HOME ENRICHMENT TOOLS
FREE



Scavenger Hunts and Games

Autism Classroom News & Resources

This image shows a collection of educational worksheets. On the left, there's a 'NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT' with a list of items to find. In the center, a 'CLOSET SCAVENGER HUNT' features illustrations of clothing items like pants, shirts, shoes, and a dress. To the right, there's a 'MAGIC MYSTERY BAG' worksheet with a grid for recording items. At the top right, there's a 'PLANNING HOME ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES' section. The bottom right corner features the 'Autism Classroom News & Resources' logo.

Home Enrichment Tools
for Distance Learning

[Read More...](#)

Differentiated
MONEY WORKSHEETS
Shopping for a Match



FREE SAMPLE

Bills & Coins Cut & Paste


Autism Classroom News & Resources

This image displays two worksheets. The left one is titled 'FRUIT STAND' and has a grid for recording purchases. The right one is titled 'CINEMA DINNERY' and has a similar grid. A green banner at the bottom left says 'FREE SAMPLE'. At the bottom center, it says 'Bills & Coins Cut & Paste'. The bottom right corner features the 'Autism Classroom News & Resources' logo.

Money Worksheets

[Read More...](#)

NEXT DOLLAR UP
Worksheets



Autism Classroom News & Resources

This image shows two worksheets titled 'Next Dollar Worksheets'. Each worksheet has a grid with columns for 'Name', 'Date', and 'Amount'. The left worksheet is for 'Sweet Shops' and the right is for 'The Bookish Shoppe'. Each grid has a list of items with their prices and checkboxes for recording purchases. The bottom center features the 'Autism Classroom News & Resources' logo.

Next Dollar Worksheets

[Read More...](#)

LEISURE ACTIVITIES
Schedule



Autism Classroom News & Resources

This image shows a 'Leisure Schedule Visuals' worksheet. It features a horizontal bar divided into four sections: 'Basketball' with a basketball icon, 'Blocks' with an illustration of children playing with blocks, 'Read' with a book icon, and 'Computer' with a computer monitor icon. The bottom center features the 'Autism Classroom News & Resources' logo.

Leisure Schedule Visuals

[Read More...](#)





Spring Life Skills
[Read More...](#)



Next Dollar Task Cards
[Read More...](#)



Silverware Counting
 Templates
[Read More...](#)



Free Visual Classroom
 Rules
[Read More...](#)



Christie Reeve's Home Enrichment Tools

PLANNING HOME ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

If you are sending work home for students to complete with families, you can use the lesson plan in Google doc below to make a calendar of activities. It's completely editable so you can use it how you want.

You will need a Google account and to make a copy to your account. This protects the original from any edits you make.

You can use the activities multiple times over different days and choose the number of activities you need the student to work on.

I included a life-skills activity each day for them to work on as well.

You could also use the scavenger hunts and games to work with students in synchronous time where you are online with them.

For the scavenger hunts, you could have their parents help them locate the items and then have them put them in front of the computer / camera. You could then give the prompts for encouraging the language.

For the games, you could play them with some facilitation of the pieces or prompting from the parents.

Google Doc Calendar Link

<https://acrlinks.com/2webie4>



Christie Reeve's Scavenger Hunts

KITCHEN SCAVENGER HUNT

Find each of the following items and cross them out as you find them.



potholder Pan Can Opener

Spatula Grater Knife

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is it?
2. Which do you use when something is hot?
3. Which do you scrape the bowl with?
4. Which one opens cans?
5. Which is sharp?
6. Which shreds cheese?
7. What goes on the stove?
8. Which are made of metal?

CRAFTS SCAVENGER HUNT

Find each of the following items and cross them out as you find them.



Markers Scissors Crayons

Glue Envelope Ribbon

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What is it?
2. What color is it?
3. Which is sharp?
4. What can you write with?
5. Which one goes in the mail?
6. Which one is a liquid?
7. What do we cut with?
8. Which can we color with?
9. Which one can we tie?



Don Johnston Webinars



Dr. Caroline Musslewhite – Supporting Students with Cognitive Needs at Home

Kelly Foner – How to Support Writing at Home for Students with Complex Needs

Webinar: Dr Caroline Musselwhite – Supporting Students with Complex Needs at Home

- READTOPIA
- Each Thematic Unit includes a teacher guide that walks educators step-by-step through instruction using the Readtopia resources:
 - videos on the Way,
 - tips for direct instruction/coaching,
 - tricks for engaging/supporting learners,
 - built-in annotations, lots of suggestions,
 - 3 different levels of support (emergent, transitional, conventional students),
 - white paper.



READTOPIA

READTOPIA



English Language Arts

Mathematics

Social Studies

Science

Life Skills

<https://learningtools.donjohnston.com/product/readtopia/>

Readtopia is a special education instructional program designed for middle and high school students with autism and other complex needs. It serves as an integrated comprehensive reading curriculum across several domains of study including ELA, Math, Social Studies, Life Skills, and Science. The company is providing a full unit free of charge. Follow the link and scroll to the part of the page on pricing where you will find a link to sign up for a free access to a unit.

<https://learningtools.donjohnston.com/product/readtopia/>

Get one month free – a mini thematic unit- Working together (Birds, Mammals, and Reptiles (Dr. Dolittle) – younger students;- The Gold Bug - older students

<https://learningtools.donjohnston.com/product/readtopia/request-1/>



What is included in READTOPIA

- Sample Graphic Novel -Birds, Mammals, and Reptiles have 5 levels of the graphic novel, The Gold Bug has 7 levels of the graphic novel
- Just right connections
- Videos – building mental models
- Anchor, read, apply
- Guided reading
- Literature supports – interactive reading
- Shared reading
- Assistive technology
- Props
- Independent reading
- Close reading,
- Phonics instruction
- Alphabet instruction
- Making words
- Word study
- Math



First Author: How to Support Writing at Home for Students with Complex Needs

Kelly Fonner, M.S.

- Webinar should be posted in the next couple days
- First Author writing curriculum
- Free sample <https://learningtools.donjohnston.com/product/first-author/request-1/>
- Adaptive lessons
- Writing curriculum components: mini lessons (5-10 min), independent writing time (20-45 min – choose topic – find picture to represent topic, choose tool to write with, use alphabet to write), author's chair (1 day/week), assessment measures
- Getting started in home: acquire the curriculum, adjust your schedule for writing time, create your child's binder, decide upon writing tool, do a preassessment- current writing sample, determine starting lesson – goal meet once a week (coaching, consulting etc)



Four Ways to Write

1. Draw/photos (topic)
 2. Scribbling (writing tools/apps)
 3. Alphabet (inventive spelling/words/sentences)
 4. Rate enhancements (word banks/word prediction)
- Alternative pencils –
 - No tech, low tech, high tech



Resources



Boardmaker Activities To Go

READING AVENUE

English Language Arts

Boardmaker[®]

<https://goboardmaker.com/collections/boardmaker-activities-to-go> Boardmaker Activities to Go are free, downloadable, printable activities for students in K-12. Designed for parents, educators, speech language pathologists, behavior specialists, and others across home, school, and clinic settings. Includes three levels of materials for students from beginners to those who are working on developing some independent skills.

<http://www.boardmakeronline.com/Login.aspx>

Sign-up for a 30-day free license to Boardmaker Online to use an entire collection of ready-made, online lessons including the comprehensive English Language Arts program called Reading Avenue.





Tar Heel Reader

- Thousands of books on all topics including pop culture, current events, and any topic you choose.
- <https://tarheelreader.org/>
- Tar Heel Reader is an online collection of free, easy-to-read, and accessible books on a range of topics. Each book can be read using built-in speech synthesis and accessed using multiple interfaces including touch screens, switches (1-3) and eye-gaze. Read books without registering. To write books, request an access code at tarheelreader@cs.unc.edu





Tar Heel Shared Reader

- Thousands of books on all topics including pop culture, current events, and any topic you choose with onscreen supports
- <https://shared.tarheelreader.org/>
- Tar Heel Shared Reader uses books from the Tar Heel Reader library and includes onscreen communication supports. Read books without registering. To add comments to books, request an access code at tarheelreader@cs.unc.edu To learn more about using Tar Heel Shared Reader during shared reading, check out <http://sharedreader.org>



DLM Familiar Text

- https://dynamiclearningmaps.org/erp_ie/ks-ela
- Familiar texts used in DLM assessments are shared through Tar Heel Reader. Tar Heel Reader is a library of open-source, accessible, texts for individuals with disabilities of all ages. This page links directly to books used in DLM English language arts assessments. Find books by selecting Grade and Title. The link will take you to the book in Tar Heel Reader. Tar Heel Reader has been designed to allow students to use a variety of alternative access methods. More information about accessing Tar Heel Reader is available on its website. When you are on the title page of a book in Tar Heel Reader, you may click the settings icon at the top right of the screen to download PowerPoint or EPUB versions of the books.
- Shared reading vignettes – describe what a shared reading interaction might look like between an adult and a student with significant cognitive disabilities, especially with those with limited means of communications



DLM Exemplar Text Supports

- <https://www.dlmpd.com/exemplar-text-supports/>
- One of the challenges in providing students with the most significant disabilities with access to the general curriculum is finding materials that link directly to the grade level content, but are written at a level that is accessible. As part of the DLM[®] project we have been building a library of companion texts that go with the exemplar texts called out in the Appendix of the Common Core State Standards. These books are accessible, open-source texts that you and your students can read online, on a reader that uses epub files, or offline as Powerpoint files or printed versions of the books.



English Language Arts

- <https://www.storylineonline.net/>
- Storyline Online, streams videos featuring famous actors reading children's books. Children can see the book pages and read along with these award-winning books. Children of all ages and their parents will find new books to love and old favorites on this site.



Scholastic Learn at Home

SCHOLASTIC LEARN AT HOME



Cross Curricular Lessons and Activities

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>

This free resource provides 20 days of articles and stories (can be read using built-in speech synthesis), videos, and fun learning challenges. Children can complete them anytime, in any order.





English Language Arts

- <https://aaclanguelab.com>
- The AAC Language Lab offers real-life solutions in support of language development for children who use augmentative and alternative communication. Explore language stages and interactive materials designed for Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs), Educators and Parents. Knowing many schools are closed, the company is providing a FREE 2-month subscription option to allow educators and families to access quick and easy activities to engage children at home. Start by creating an account then, under My Account, go to Purchase for Myself and select Free 2 Month Trial under the Language Lab purchase options.





AssistiveWare Core Word Classroom English Language Arts

- <https://coreword.assistiveware.com/login>
- AssistiveWare Core Word Classroom is an online resource for teaching communication and interaction across the day, including a special section to help parents teach communication during everyday routines. Sign up for a free account and then check out the resources including the section on *Core Words at Home*.



Autism Classroom News and Resources

- <https://autismclassroomresources.com/free-resources-for-home-practice/>
- Blog, Podcast, Resources, Special Educator Academy – all are free except Special Educator Academy which has free 7 day trial then \$20 per month
- Christie Reeve – Ep 31 Making Distance Education Work in Special Education (podcast)
<https://autismclassroomresources.com/podcasts/distance-learning/>
- Facebook group: Autism Classroom Resources' Special Educators Connection



Resource for DB, VI, HI, SMD

- Virtual Activities for Teachers and Families COVID-19
- Texas Sensory Support Network
- http://www.livebinders.com/play/play?id=2643652&fbclid=IwAR0gzU_8z7XVEdO9Wejt4mb4wFh9G6-cNXAEhN7Zs1xMZQmyjOc2VIU4Ow8

Best Practices for Remote Learning

Livestream Activities

Transitioning to Online Learning

Deaf Ed Specific Resources and Ideas

DeafBlind/DHH+/MIV I

DHH Self-Advocacy Resources for Teachers

Online Storytelling - Sign & More

SPED Resources and Ideas

Early Childhood Information & Resources

VI Specific Resources and Ideas

Teacher & Student Schedule Ideas

COVID-19 Info

Virtual Lessons

DCMP Captioned and Descriptive Videos

Non-Screen Activities

Free Educational Tools

Free Family Resources

Accessibility Resources

Social Distancing Activities

Dept of Ed Guidance Updates

Online PD for DHH and VI Professionals



Additional Material



Resources for Working with Students with SCD During COVID 19

Transcript – Distance Learning in Special Education

DLM at Home Teaching Resources (Parent and Teacher version)

Tar Heel Reader Free Online Resource (TASN)

Supporting All Types of Learners (TASN)

Supporting Students at Home Guidance for teachers and parents webinar slides

How to Support Writing at Home for Students with Complex Needs webinar slides



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