

Accommodations for Students with Learning Differences (PK-2)



These are accommodations you can use at home with students who learn in different ways. These strategies are appropriate for all subjects: Reading, Writing, and Math. You don't have to use each strategy. Watch your students as they work to help you know what they might need.

- **Keep directions short and simple.** Give no more than 1-2 steps at a time.
- **Give frequent breaks.** Take a break or switch the task often. Students this age need to move and wiggle often. Dance breaks are always a favorite!
 - Pre-K - about every 5 - 8 minutes
 - Kindergarten - about every 8-10 minutes
 - 1st grade - about every 10-15 minutes
 - 2nd grade - about every 15-20 minutes
- **Give extra time.**
 - Some students need “think time” when asked a question. Count to 10 before expecting an answer.
 - For some students, hands and fingers can get tired while writing. Allow them time to “shake it off” if needed.
 - Students who are easily distracted may need extra time to finish an activity.
- **Use a highlighter.**
 - Use a highlighter or colored pencils to highlight important points or information.
 - Highlight where the answer or response should go.
 - Highlighting is also helpful for students to trace as they learn to write.
- Provide a **checklist of individual steps** required to complete an activity.
- Find a **quiet and comfortable place** for your student to do their work. Try to minimize distractions during work time.
- **Provide frequent feedback** to your student about their activity progress. Tell them, “You are working hard!” or “Keep going!” If they are making a mistake tell them, “Look carefully,” or “Think again.”
- **Read directions aloud to your student.** You can also read any other portions of activities aloud as needed.
- **Break activities into small parts.** You can fold the paper in half, cover up some sections, or break the activity into separate steps. This can help to minimize frustration, lower anxiety, and reduce distractions.
- **Use manipulatives** for math such as pennies, beans, or other small items you have around the home. These items can help with counting, comparing values, adding and subtracting.