

Rx for Your Special Needs © Joyce Herzog
By Joyce Herzog, Author, *Learning in Spite of Labels*
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General Tips for Special Learners:

Success, Success, Success!

Establish simple rules with clear consequences.

Structure

Get attention before giving instructions.

Teach organization (bucket vs. filing cabinet).

Help as Little as Necessary.

Active Involvement

Avoid television, computer games; Try board games, musical instruments, individual physical skills.

Separate behavior from individuality and personality.

"This **behavior** is unacceptable (inappropriate). Can you fix it? How soon? How can I help?"

Use games! Remain enthusiastic!

Small Bites of information, tiny steps of growth

Limited Choices

Give verbal and visual instructions.

Assist organization as long as necessary.

Provide for gradual independence

Physical and Mental breaks

Crisis management: Give example by maintaining control. Remain calm and in control!

Determine why there is a problem:

- Too much stimulus
- Unmet expectations - Were expectations realistic? Were efforts realistic?
 - Inappropriate expression of emotions. Find alternate ways to express feelings.

TO TEACH: DEMONSTRATE GIVING THE ANSWER
CUE FOR THE CORRECT ANSWER
QUESTION FOR THE CORRECT ANSWER
INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

ADD/ADHD

Provide frequent appropriate outlets for energy

Teach them **to** stop, think, decide. Teach them **how to** do each!

Provide frequent breaks.

Give cues to return to controlled thinking or work.

Teach transition skills! Prepare them for each change.

LD

Shorten the assignments.

Simplify the steps.

Allow for alternatives to writing.

Don't require copying of material.

Highlight important concepts in book.

Down's Syndrome

1/2 have vision problems; 65-80% have conductive hearing loss; underactive thyroid gland is common.

Reinforce effort to succeed. (Make it easy, but not too easy!) (Needs 80% success to keep trying.)

Thwart learned helplessness with positive rewards for effort. Food rewards are most basic.

From infancy teach them to work for success.

Teach to sequence in real, relevant ways.

Recognize child's energy limits. Teach him to verbalize his need for a break.

Thwart teasing by being wrong. Make it fun to be right.

Separate teaching from testing.

Plan for the stages of learning:

Acquisition (Show, tell, demonstrate, instruct, describe, prompt)

Practice to fluency (Games, concrete, manipulaton, involvement)

Transfer (Different fonts, different situation, different stimuli, different presenter)

Generalization (Real life application, independent use of information)

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General Resources

NATHHAN (National Challenged Homeschoolers)
• P.O. Box 39, Porthill, ID • 208-267-6246 •
<http://www.NATHHAN.com>
NATHANEWS@aol.com

HSLDA (Home School Legal Defense Association) •
PO Box 159 • Paeonian Springs, VA 22129 • 703-338-
5600 • <http://www.hslda.org>

Joyce Herzog - HomeSchool Therapy (in home
consultations), Phone and EMAIL Therapy
1-800-745-8212 • <http://www.joyceherzog.com>
Learning in Spite of Labels, Scarey Cat Reading
System and Choosing and Using Curriculum

Lifetime Books and Gifts Always Incomplete
Resource Guide and Catalog • Lifetime Books and
Gifts • 3900 Chalet Suzanne Drive • Lake Wales, FL
33853-7763 • 1-800-377-0390
• <http://www.lifetimeonline.com/>

LD

How To Rescue At-Risk Students • ISBN 0-878419-
00-5 and *The LD Child and the ADHD Child* by
Suzanne Stevens • ISBN 0-89587-142-4 • John F.
Blair, Publisher • 1406 Plaza Drive • Winston-Salem,
NC 27103

Peterson's Colleges with Programs for Students with
Learning Disabilities by Charles Mangrum II and
Stephen Struchart • ISBN 1-560790400-3 • Peterson's,
Princeton, NJ

ADD/ADHD

The Hyper Active Child, by Dr. Grant Martin •
ISBN 0-89693-968-8 • Victor Books

How to Reach and Teach ADD/ADHD

Children ISBN 0-87628-413-6 by Sandra F.
Rief • The Center for Applied Research in
Education • West Nyack, NY 10995

Maybe You Know My Kid! A Parents' Guide to
Identifying, Understanding and Helping Your
Child with Attention-deficit Hyperactivity
Disorder by Mary Fowler • ISBN 1-55972-
209-6

The Myth of the A.D.D. Child, by Thomas
Armstrong, Ph.D. ISBN 0-452-27457-4 • a
Plume Book

ADD Quick Tips, by Cruisinger and Moore,
ISBN 0-944662-05-6 • BRAINWORKS

Blame It on the Brain?, by Edward T. Welch,
ISBN 0-87552-602-0 • P&R Publishing

Down Syndrome

Teaching the Infant with Down Syndrome and
Teaching Reading to Children with Down
Syndrome: A Guide for Parents and Teachers
by Patricia Logan Oelwein • Woodbine House,
6510 Belts Mill Road, Bethesda, MD 20817 •
1-800-843-7323

Games:

Big Books of Books and Activities, By Dinah
Zike, Dinah-Might Activities, Inc. • PO Box
39657 • San Antonio, TX 78218 • 210-657-
5951

Games... Tools for Learning by Mark and
Janice Vreeland • 1934 South 56th Street •
West Allis, WI 53219 • 414-327-4288

F.L.A.G.S. (Fundamental Language Arts Games
Supplement) by Letz Farmer. Mastery Publications •
704-684-0429

Autism

Let Me Hear Your Voice, by Catherine Maurice
Fawcett • ISBN 0-449-90664-7 • Columbine • New
York

Too Wise to be Mistaken Too Good to be Unkind by
Cathy Steere
ISBN 1-930133-00-6 Grace and Truth Books

This Anguishing Blessed Journey, by Sonya Shafer
XULON • ISBN 1-594670-80-3
www.intentionalparents.com

Dyslexia

The Gift of Dyslexia, Ron Davis
Perigee Books • ISBN 0-399-57293-X

Uncommon Gifts, James Evans
ISBN 0-877-888493

Web Sites:

Special Education Network
<http://www.schoolnet.ca/sne/friends.html>

Special Needs Resources
<http://www.geocities.com/Athens/8259/special.html>

Special Needs Web Ring
<http://www.webring.org/cgi-bin/webring?ring=spneed;list>

ID Page
<http://homepage.bushnell.net/~peanutst/learningd.html>

Learning Disabled and Gifted
<http://members.aol.com/discanner/ld.html>

ADD - Mining Company
<http://add.miningco.com>

Christian AD(H)D
<http://www.concentric.net/~hoynes2/cdhd.html>

Dyslexia
<http://www.dyslexia.com/>

Dyslexia Institute
<http://www.connect.bt.com/CampusConnect/orgs/org12281/index.html>

Dyslexic/ADD
http://www.capecod.net/~rbl/q_Dyslexia_ADD.html