



Sign in | Join | Browse Site

Enter Your Search...

Search

TEACHING TIPS MODIFIED LESSON PLANS IEP & 504 PLANS MORE IN EDUCATION

Want to Teach Special Education?
 Online NCATE Accredited Degrees in Special Education. [LEARN MORE](#)

Home > Education > Special Ed > Special Ed. Teaching Tips

Leave a comment

SPECIAL EDUCATION CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES



Article by **CarolAnnMc5** (1,326 pts)

Edited & published by **Elizabeth Stannard Gromisch** (15,501 pts) on Feb 4, 2011

Related Guides: [Olympics](#) [Special Needs](#) [Basketball](#)

In this article, educators and special needs volunteers pinpoint some of the most beneficial activities for students living with physical or mental disabilities. Interactive approaches are the primary focus of the article. Learn about special ed classroom activities that get students moving.

Ads by Google

[Newfound School, N. Texas](#) www.newfoundschool.com

Enrolling Early Childhood-grade 12. Autism PDD Asperger's ADD, others.

[Get Dyslexia Help Now](#) www.twincitiesdyslexiadoc.com

Life Changing Brain Based Therapy Receive 2 Free Visits!

[Minnesota Dyslexia Tester](#) www.BrightWireDyslexia.com

Certified Dyslexia Specialist Testing and Tutoring Available

Special Ed Classroom Activities: Moving Is Key

The word "activity" makes one think about moving! Moving the body, moving the mind, or moving the spirit--all are on the "active radar screen" and for that reason, everyone is capable of some sort of activity. This most certainly includes the special needs student, and thanks to a variety of opportunities in today's world, these kids and adults are making huge strides in the academic and social arenas!



Moving is SMART

Designed by professional [physical therapists](#), the Stimulating Maturity through Accelerated Readiness (S.M.A.R.T.) Curriculum "helps children develop the skills that are essential for classroom learning," says Josh Orpen, Communications Coordinator of the Minnesota Learning Resource Center. The program's multi-sensory activities provide tools for training the brainstem to develop auditory, visual and motor functions. Examples include:

- 1) Alligator Crawl--crawling on the stomach across a padded surface while using the opposite arm and leg simultaneously. Arms should extend as they reach, the inside of the foot should dig in as it pushes off, and hands and chest should be flat on the floor (this helps develop basic level coordination and integrate both sides of the brain).
- 2) Balance Beams--Walking forward, heel-to-toe with eyes open and watching the beam. After this is mastered, try carrying a book, walking backwards, or stepping over the objects on the beam (this helps develop balance

TOPICS

- ADHD
- Autism
- Dyslexia
- Gifted & Exceptional Students
- Hearing & Vision Impairment
- IDEA
- IEP, 504 & Planning
- Legal Issues
- Modified Lesson Plans
- Physical Disabilities
- Special Ed. Teaching Tips
- Study Tips

FEATURED AUTHORS

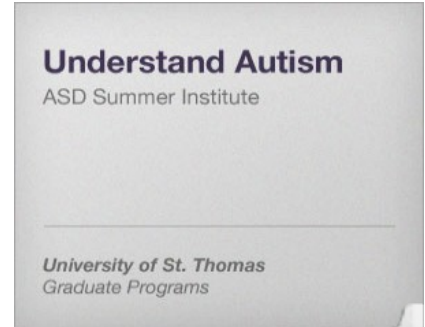
MOST POPULAR ARTICLES

- > Special Education Classroom Activities
- > Teaching Tips for Children with Down's Syndrome
- > Task Analysis in Special Education
- > Creating Effective Classroom Management Strategies for Special Education Students
- > Understanding the Peabody Picture Vocabulary Test

and body awareness skills that help students sit still in class).

As a volunteer with Oklahoma's Special Olympics Program for many years, Aaron Ashworth has taught numerous sports and life skills activities. He offers several specifics for the middle and high school level which have produced exceptional positive effects. [Swimming](#), weight lifting, volleyball and soccer, as well as [wheelchair](#) basketball, all provide opportunities for the physically or mentally challenged student. "We also found that including teachers, other students, coaches and even parents in some of these extra-curricular activities brought about a better understanding of the obstacles faced by the special needs student or athlete." Other areas of thinking out of the box include partnering with your school's Student Council or Honor Society to plan and perform community works projects. [Special needs students](#) need more community exposure to be better equipped to accomplish goals independently. Whether it's simple bookkeeping or sales skills, or training for various store or restaurant positions, businesses need to know that the special needs population is capable and willing to carry its own weight in society. "It took less than two years for many of our students to reach their full potential when we allowed them the prep and work experience they needed," Ashworth said. "How exciting to see how they surprised the community, all because a teacher or coach took time to make ordinary activities more inviting and workable!"

- > Education Techniques For Children With Cerebral Palsy
- > Intellectual Disabilities in the Classroom
- > Mainstreaming and Inclusion: How Are They Different?
- > Classroom Instruction: Pros and Cons of Direct Teaching
- > Task Analysis Activities



1 2 **NEXT >**

Like Be the first of your friends to like this. Comments | Flag

1 Share 0 Share 0 Share 0 Email 6 Share 8

- Contact Us
- Advertise with Us
- Become a Writer
- RSS
- Site Map
- Terms of Use
- Privacy Policy
- Copyright Policy

REMEDIAL TEACHING PROGRAMS

Remedial teaching can be innovative and exciting if teachers are equipped with the latest proven techniques.

- > 1. Definition of Remedial Teaching Programs
- > 2. Task Analysis Activities
- > 3. Special Education Classroom Activities
- > 4. A Guide To Music Education for Handicapped Children
- > 5. Symptoms of Directional Dyslexia in Preschool

WRITE FOR BRIGHT HUB

Bright Hub is looking for talented writers to contribute to one of the fastest growing communities online. If you have something bright to say, say it here! [Learn more here.](#)

©2011 Bright Hub Inc. All rights reserved.

Enter Your Search...

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER

Special Ed Channel News | [View All News](#)

Enter Your Email...

Sponsored Resources

- [Teacher Resources](#)
- [Improve Reading](#)
- [Reading Strategies](#)
- [Classroom Games](#)
- [Special Needs Child](#)
- [Teaching Resources](#)
- [Classroom Activities](#)
- [Classroom Resources](#)
- [Classroom Ideas](#)
- [Fast ForWord](#)
- [Math Curriculum](#)
- [Lesson Plan Ideas](#)

Add a comment

Subject:

2000 characters remaining

Your Name

Your Email*

Enter the code below:



Notify me of followup comments via email

Add Comment