



Supporting Your Child at Home

Special Education

Overview

This guide is designed to provide ideas for engaging your child in learning activities while schools may be closed for inclement weather or other unexpected events. The activities listed below are intended to help keep your child intellectually active while they are at home. The activity ideas do not represent the first level of instruction that occurs in our schools nor do they represent specially designed instruction as provided by special education services. Best practices for first instruction and special education services will occur when your child returns to school.

If your child receives special education services, first visit your child's grade or instructional level *Supporting Students At Home* activities for each content area. Every grade level has a list of activities that support each curricular area.

You can refer to your child's IEP for information about the skills on which you could focus. Read the Present Levels of Academic and Functional Performance pages of the IEP to identify your child's instructional levels. Read the Supplemental Aids pages of the IEP to identify what types of support the school-based team is using to help your child learn.

The activities and tasks that children complete at home will not be used as assessment or counted toward part of the child's final quarter grade. Families should review the list below and select additional options that are relevant, accessible, and age-appropriate.

Communication Devices

If your child has a communication device, be sure to charge it daily. Encourage your child to use the device for daily activities, social interactions, and school work.

AAC for Caregivers

<https://www.spd.org.sg/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Manual-AAC-for-Caregivers-2019.pdf>

Language Opportunities for AAC at Home

<https://www.assistiveware.com/blog/language-opportunities-using-aac-home>

Daily Routines

Maintaining a daily structured routine is important for children.

Create a daily task chart of activities for your child to complete each day. You can include meals, chores, family activities, free choice, breaks, and school work. Set a time for the activity. Your child may benefit from using a timer (watch, clock) to know when to start/stop an activity.

A task list can be a written list of activities on a piece of paper or on sticky notes. Students can cross the activity off of the list or throw away the sticky note when the activity is completed. When considering tasks and activities, think about:

- How long your child can do an activity.
- Your child's interests and preferred activities.
- Tasks with a variety of activity levels.
- Activities that foster movement.
- How much support or independence your child requires to complete an activity.

Sample Daily Checklist

_____ 's To Do List
Subject: _____ Date: _____

| | |
|----------|--------------------------|
| 1. _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Additional Activities

- Listen to/read a book and talk about it.
- Complete a chore or prepare a meal.
- Sort objects by color, size, quantity, etc.
- Alphabetize objects.
- Watch a movie/television show and talk about it.
- Write 1-3 sentences or draw a picture every day to represent something you did that day.
- Read adapted materials and stories <https://tarheelreader.org/>