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Remedial strategies to help teachers with an ADD student

Continuing class in a regular classroom setting can be beneficial to the student's development. Certain remedial strategies should be taken into consideration and special education classes will help for the areas in which the student is delayed.

All learning situations should include emphasis on helping the student learn to recognize the essential details in visually presented materials. The student will require more time and sensitivity on the part of the teachers.

Specific strategies are:

1. Seat the student near the teacher's desk, but include her as part of the regular class setting.
2. Avoid distracting stimulus. Try not to place him near air conditioners, high traffic areas, heaters, doors or windows.
3. Encourage peer tutoring and cooperative/collaborative learning
4. Avoid transitions, physical relocations, change in schedule, etc. Children with attention/distraction problems do not handle change well.
5. Maintain eye contact during verbal instruction and make directions clear and concise
6. **Be consistent** with daily instructions and simplify complex directions
7. Make sure the student understands the instructions before beginning the task and repeat instructions in a calm and positive manner if needed
8. Help the student feel comfortable with seeking assistance; gradually, reduce the amount of assistance, but keep in mind that student will need more help for longer period of time than the average child
9. Require a daily assignment notebook if necessary and make sure student writes down all assignments each day. If he is not capable of this, the teacher should help her. Sign the notebook daily to signify completion of homework assignments. You can also use notebook for daily communication with parents.
10. Give the student **only** one task at a time and modify assignments as needed
11. **Monitor frequently. Maintain a supportive attitude.**
12. Develop an individualized education program. **Make sure you are testing knowledge and not attention span**
13. Give extra time for certain tasks. The student may work slowly. Do not penalize her for needing extra time. Keep in mind that children with ADD are easily frustrated. Stress, pressure, and fatigue can break down their self-control and lead to a poor behavior.
14. **Avoid** ridicule and criticism
15. **Avoid** publicly reminding on "take your medicine"
16. **Reward more than you punish**, in order to build self-esteem
17. Praise immediately any and all good behavior and performance
18. Change rewards if they are not effective in motivating behavior change
19. Find ways to encourage the student and teach the student to reward herself; encourage positive self talk