

# What to try with **Students Who Have Special Needs**

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## ...IF Attention is an Issue...

- ★ Set up a space that restricts visual distractions and noises so students can concentrate on their work.
- ★ Break up the task to be completed, and give the student a time frame in which to complete each part of the task.
- ★ Set up an incentive program where the student can gain point toward a reward by accumulating point for tasks completed.
- ★ Pair the student with another student who is task oriented to help the student stay on task.
- ★ Create novel assignments and activities that will grab the student's interest so that he/she will be motivated to complete the task.
- ★ Use proximity to reinforce on task behavior.
- ★ Build in movement within a lesson.
- ★ Teach self-monitoring strategies.
- ★ Help the student set and monitor personal goals.
- ★ Provide opportunities to change tasks or activities more frequently.
- ★ Provide reminder cues or prompts.
- ★ Use private signals to cue appropriate behavior.
- ★ Prepare the learner for changes in routine.
- ★ Use graphic organizers.
- ★ Connect previous learning to new information.
- ★ Use flow charts.
- ★ Use active learning.
- ★ Use cooperative learning.
- ★ Allow students to work with a favorite partner if effort and productivity remain at an increased level.
- ★ Give students some choice of working contexts: individual, whole class, small group, partners, etc.
- ★ Provide frequent feedback.
- ★ Give forced choices such as, "Do A or B."
- ★ Recognize effective effort.