

Support for Diverse Learning Needs

Simple strategies to help every learner succeed.



As you support students with a range of learning, sensory, and communication needs, answer these questions to determine the types of support and strategies you will use.

- ① What guidance does the student's IEP or 504 Plan provide?
- ② Have you identified contacts at your school who can assist with technology or specialized expertise?
- ③ Have you allowed students to complete work in multiple ways?
- ④ What does the student say works best for them?
- ⑤ Have you made materials available in advance?
- ⑥ Have you provided instructions in spoken, written, and visual formats?
- ⑦ Have you researched specific supports for visual, hearing, learning, and mobility needs?

Supporting Students with **Vision Needs:**

- ✓ Use eBook features like text-to-speech, audio descriptions, or adjustable text size and color.
- ✓ Narrate aloud as you display visual content.
- ✓ Integrate opportunities for oral responses instead of written ones.
- ✓ Offer extended assignment times.
- ✓ Use tactile supports like physical models, raised-line drawing, and hands-on manipulatives.

Supporting Students with **Hearing Needs:**

- ✓ Leverage eBook features like closed captions, transcripts, and adjustable playback speed.
- ✓ Face the class as you speak to them.
- ✓ Provide a verbal summary of instructions, presentations, agendas, and announcements.
- ✓ Allow wait time after presenting key points so the student can watch an interpreter or read captions.

Supporting Students with **Learning Needs:**

- ✓ Provide consistent structure and predictability, such as posted daily routines, agendas, and instructions.
- ✓ Break assignments into smaller steps.
- ✓ Provide checklists.
- ✓ Consider a student's sensory sensitivities to sound, light, touch, and movement.
- ✓ Provide flexible seating or appropriation of a safe/quiet place.

Supporting Students with **Mobility Needs:**

- ✓ Consider spaces, seating, and furniture needs.
- ✓ Provide convenient access to materials.
- ✓ Allow for the use of assistive technologies.
- ✓ Account for transitions and movement between activities and classes.
- ✓ Modify assignments to allow for extra time, reduced handwriting demands, or adapted activities.

Explore classroom accommodations, accessibility features, and additional support available in the accessibility guide embedded within your courses on my.mheducation.com.