

Strategies & Resources in Distance Learning for Individuals with Disabilities with Significant Needs

(Linda O'Neal, SDSU, Program Specialist, California Career Innovations & WINTAC, Regional Center of Orange County & Chapman University Thompson Policy Institute)

1) Life Skills Homework for high school Transition Special Education (Life Skills, Cores, E-Learning Life Skills, editable charts, etc.)

Copyright 2018

<file:///C:/Users/linda/Desktop/FREE%20Life%20Skills%20HW/READ%20ME.pdf>

2) On-line Transition Curriculum-Life Centered Education

https://www.cec.sped.org/Publications/LCE-Transition-Curriculum?utm_source=cec&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=default&zs=0MDMc1&zl=SOLf6

CEC's Life Centered Education (LCE) online transition curriculum was developed by special educators for special educators. CEC is proud to present the entirely online Life Centered Education (LCE) transition curriculum and assessment portal.

Discover how LCE can help you better prepare your students for independent and rewarding lives after they finish school.

Interested in learning more or signing up for a FREE 2-week trial of LCE? Contact lce@cec.sped.org

3) N2Y Remote Learning

<https://n2y.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/categories/360003397834-Remote-Learning->

As many districts consider closing due to the Corona Virus (COVID-19), you may find that you need to engage students in remote learning. Whether your students have limited or full access to technology at home, n2y can help.

Free and low-cost resources are available to support remote learning, training and support during corona virus closures.



Learn how student login provides students access to Unique Learning System, Positivity and L3 Skills to students to encourage a seamless transition from school to home.

N2Y is used to support use of the following learning systems:

- **Unique Learning Systems**

The award-winning Unique Learning System is a one-of-a-kind program designed specifically to give students with complex learning needs meaningful access to the general education curriculum. From one convenient, cloud-based platform, educators deliver differentiated, standards-aligned content enhanced by powerful assessments, data tools and evidence-based instructional support. Students from pre-K through transition have the advantage of consistent high-quality instruction, a motivating interactive learning environment, engaging symbol support and a path to independence.

<https://www.n2y.com/unique-learning-system-brochure-pdf/>



- **Positivity**

Enhance classroom management and promote positive behaviors, in and out of the classroom, to lay the foundation for successful learning outcomes. Research confirms that for learning to occur, self-regulation skills and emotional control are vital. Our comprehensive, integrated online solution delivers proactive, evidence-based strategies to empower individual self-regulation and executive functioning.

<https://www.n2y.com/positivity-brochure-pdf/>



- **L3 Skills**

We've developed L³ Skills, named in honor of lifelong learning, to give students many different fun and engaging ways to extend their achievement beyond daily classroom instruction. The educational games and activities provide students with the skills and confidence to successfully apply their learning—and reach towards their own wonderfully unique potential.

<https://www.n2y.com/l3-skills-brochure-pdf/>

<https://www.n2y.com/webinars/provide-skill-practice-and-support-with-educational-games/>



- **News-2-You**

A connection to the world and to the people around us is life sustaining. But for some individuals with complex learning needs, that connection can be limited. More than 20 years ago, when speech-language pathologist Jacquie Clark discovered that students with autism and other unique learning needs lacked accessible materials connecting them to current events, she created the symbol-supported newspaper, News-2-You. Today, this online weekly newspaper, differentiated to four levels, is bridging the gap for students in more than 60,000 classrooms across the country.

<https://www.n2y.com/news-2-you-brochure-pdf/>



- **Symbol Stix Prime**

Symbols are a lifeline for individuals with communication disabilities, enabling unique learners to understand the world around them and to express their thoughts and needs. Symbol Stix PRIME, the evidence-based symbol communication tool, provides that lifeline, ensuring everyone has access to learning, language and self-expression.

<https://www.n2y.com/symbolstix-prime-brochure-pdf/>



- **Professional Development**

Everyone learns on their own path, which is why we offer a wide range of

professional development learning experiences. From on-site training to self-paced online modules to customized webinars, you'll have flexible, comprehensive support that respects your individual needs.

<https://www.n2y.com/professional-development-brochure-pdf/>



4. COVID-19 and Social Insurance and Benefit Programs

This is a 3-page handout put together by Cornell University's Institute on Employment & Disability. (Joyce Montgomery, Vallejo UHSD) Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Individuals who are receiving SSI need to be aware of several key elements related to the stimulus payment: 1. Stimulus payments are NOT taxable. 2. Stimulus payments received by the individual that are initiated through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) will not count as income in the calculation of the individual's SSI amount for that month (26 U.S. Code § 6409). 3. Stimulus payments will not be counted as "resources" for a twelve-month period following the receipt of the funds (26 U.S. Code § 6409).

(Please find this document on the google drive.)

5. Promoting Financial Health and Resiliency for People with Disabilities and their Families During the COVID-19 Pandemic

(Center for Disability-Inclusive Community Development)



The novel coronavirus, or COVID-19 pandemic, has created uncertainty for Americans' physical, mental and financial health. During this time, we must be vigilant in promoting healthy habits and resiliency. The Center for Disability-Inclusive Community Development (CDICD), managed by National Disability Institute (NDI), has developed five strategies and resources to assist you in taking steps to maintain your financial health.

<https://www.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/financial-resiliency-tips.pdf>

(This 2-page handout is available on the google drive.)

6. Vital Source

www.vitalsource.com

Students will be able to access their class materials through VitalSource's Bookshelf app at no cost.

March 16th-May 25th, 2020 access to an expansive catalog of eTexts will be available for free to students at semester-calendar institutions who have been impacted by recent campus closures.

Students simply log in to the VitalSource Bookshelf app using their school email address and can then view course materials from participating publishers via VitalSource's Explore capabilities within Bookshelf



Students who need assistance accessing free eTexts can visit <https://get.vitalsource.com/vitalsource-helps><https://get.vitalsource.com/vitalsource-helps> (Links to an external site.).

Inside Higher Ed:

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2020/03/16/coronavirus-closures-force-colleges-move-students-online-ed-tech-experts-see>

7. Voc Fit

<http://www.vocfit.com/>

This is a free job training/employment assessment tool that Was developed by The Ohio State University, Colorado State University and the National Institutes on Health.



It is currently utilized by many Project SEARCH Sites but other school and agencies are encouraged to use it. (These tools were originally developed for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, but has expanded its use to individuals (youth and adults) with a wide range of disabilities.)

" Job matching is the collaborative, data-based decision-making process used by transition teams to determine the best fit between an individual's abilities and preferences and the job' s environmental and occupational demands"

Vocational Fit Assessment

- Valid and reliable assessment of student abilities & internship demands

Demands & Abilities Transforming Algorithm

- Consistent, efficient, & trustworthy data processing

Job Matching Reports

- Novel decision support system identifies the pros and cons of each potential job match.
- Reveals areas of need for goal setting and skill development

Step-by-Step Guide to VocFit.com

<http://www.vocfit.com/support.html>

Find both video & PDF options for step-by-step guidance on navigating VocFit.com.

8. Center on Online Learning and Students with Disabilities: Quality of Life, Learning And Performance

<http://www.centeronlinelearning.res.ku.edu/>

Find research and guidance on how online learning can be made more accessible, engaging, and effective for K-12 learners with disabilities by investigating approaches that address learner variability within the range of conditions under which online learning occurs. Please let us know how we can assist. With COVID-19 moving much of our K-12 instruction online, the Center is working on tips and strategies to support teachers, parents, and the



students we serve in this virtual environment. Check back periodically for tips and ideas.

9. #COVIBOOK: Supporting and Reassuring Children Around the World
(Barbara Sorter, Riverside COE)



This is an awesome book resource for students (and SWD) that explains the virus to children (photos) in over 21 languages. It was shared to me by Shermon Garnett. Scroll towards bottom for various languages.

Link: <https://www.mindheart.co/descargables>

10. SCDD Easy to read booklets about the Coronavirus in partnership with SARTAC <https://selfadvocacyinfo.org/>

This booklet was created by Green Mountain Self-Advocates, a SARTAC partner.



✓ **Plain Language Booklet on Coronavirus**

<https://selfadvocacyinfo.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Plain-Language-Information-on-Coronavirus.pdf>

✓ **Spanish Plain Language Booklet on Coronavirus**

<https://selfadvocacyinfo.org/resource/plain-language-information-on-covid-19-spanish-version/>

11. 5 Things to Know About Coronavirus

This article includes specifics regarding COVID-19 and further reading suggestions. Andrew Pulrang, Diversity & Inclusion.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/andrewpulrang/2020/03/08/5-things-to-know-about-coronavirus-and-people-with-disabilities/#7b2fa5541d21>

12. Virtual Job Shadowing: Interactive Career Exploration

VJS Junior K-5

VJS 6-12 & Post-Secondary

New! Cluster Overview Videos!



Now your students and users can access Cluster Overview Videos on VirtualJobShadow.com! To access these short videos about each of the 17 career clusters, enter Career Central and filter by "Cluster."

https://www.virtualjobshadow.com/?utm_source=Copy+of+Sept+2019+Customer+Blast+%28bullet+list+mod%29&utm_campaign=Customer+blast%2C+5%2F9%2F2017&utm_medium=email

Be sure to check out all of the newest videos on VirtualJobShadow.com! Go to Career Central and filter by the "Newest" tab.

- Social Worker
- Architect
- Speech Pathologist
- Chiropractor
- Woodworker

- Commodities Broker
- Librarian
- K9 Unit State Trooper
- Biotech Scientist

13. Respect Ability: Individuals with Disabilities and COVID-19 Key Issues-Resources

(Barbara Sorter, Riverside COE)

<https://www.respectability.org/2020/03/covid-19-key-issues-resources/>

In terms of the disability community, look to the hard work and leadership of the Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies (the Partnership). The staff of the Partnership are truly the nation's leaders and subject matter experts on disability and disaster preparedness. Find their website here: <http://www.disasterstrategies.org>.



Community health depends not only on collective action, it depends on clear information. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) have been widely distributing information and guidance on how to respond to COVID-19. You can find those resources here:

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/large-events/index.html>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/COVID19-symptoms.pdf>
- https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/prevention.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fabout%2Fprevention.html
- <https://www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus>

Because COVID-19 is bringing renewed public attention to the problem of food insecurity and food access, we encourage those that have the opportunity, please find and support your local food bank: <https://www.feedingamerica.org/find-your-local-foodbank>.

Finally, last week, Respect Ability hosted a webinar on COVID-19, Disability & Mental Health. Watch the recording with open captions, download the PowerPoint and read the transcript here: <https://www.respectability.org/2020/03/webinar-covid-19-disability-mental-health>.

14. Transition Coalition Center for Parent Information & Resources

<https://www.parentcenterhub.org/coronavirus-resources/>



CPIR purposefully limited how many resources are listed, because we're all drinking from the firehouse of information out there. Sometimes it's more helpful to take a few sips and come back later for more.

To that end, they will be updating this list as new resources emerge that seem especially relevant to the work of the Parent Center network.

15. The Parent's 2020 Guide to Google Classroom

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1PDVZvie0DnFbFEVFB8U3j89o1mD5BCUXTE6ymbb9y_k/mobilepresent?fbclid=IwAR1BToHy_P3VxIYBjJW0XgVTVxiQrnUfgKjql8r7D6TQm3Imq-FygU6qXN0&slide=id.g4f60ec15fb_1_0

This is an 18-slide power point for parents.

16. Audible...an Amazon Company (Amy Tingirides, Laguna Beach USD)

With all of us experiencing varying degrees of social distancing and school closures, we have created something that we hope makes our customers' lives a little easier. At stories.audible.com, you will find hundreds of our titles available completely free. The collection has been handpicked by our editors and is a mix of stories to entertain, engage, and inform young people, ages 0–18.



These stories offer a screen-free option that we hope may help break up the day for families with students home from school.

There are selections for our listeners in English, Spanish, German, French, Japanese and Italian.

To access the free titles, just visit stories.audible.com from any web browser. The experience is completely free – no log-ins, credit cards, or passwords required. Just click, stream and listen.

We wish you and your loved one's good health, and we hope that listening to a good story will offer some respite during these unsettling times.