

BEST PRACTICE TEACHING STRATEGIES

(Helpful for all students)

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Common Problems that Impact Learning

- Learning Disabilities
- Output:
 - Oral Expression
 - Written Expression
 - Slow Writing
 - Math Calculation
- Input:
 - Listening Comp.
 - Reading Comp.
 - Slow Reading
- ADHD/EF Symptoms
 - Inattention/Impulsivity
 - Working memory
 - Poor Organization
 - Getting started
- Learning Problems
 - Poor Memory
 - Poor Fine Motor
 - Slow Processing Speed
 - Slow retrieval of info.
- Dev. Delay/30% (4-6 yr)

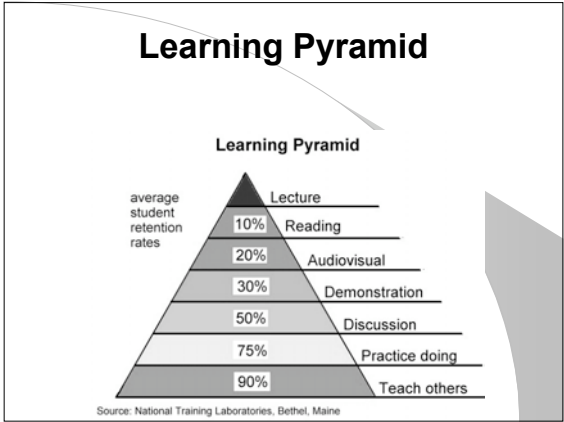
So if a student has behavior problems,
where do you intervene first?

***With the academics?
or
the behavior?***

Academic interventions improve academics & behavior but...

The converse is not true!

Behavioral interventions do not improve
academic performance.



Best Practice Teaching Strategies

These strategies also address many of
the student's deficits in executive skills.

Teaching Strategies

- **Modify teaching *methods***
- **Modify *assignments***
- **Modify *testing and grading***
- **Increase *supervision***
- **Increase use of *technology***
- ***Include strategies in educational plan***

Teaching Methods

General Tips for ADHD

- **Reduce demands on memory;**
 - their memory capacity is limited
- **Use visual cues and reminders**
- **Give extra guidance and support**
- **Use interactive learning strategies**
- **Allow manipulatives**
- **Use direct instruction to teach skills**
- **Schedule key classes at peak med. time**

WOW!

Working on Work

Dr. Phillip Schlechty
www.schlechtycenter.org

Teaching Methods

Use Visual Cues & Reminders

- **Modeling**
- **Visual posting**
- **Guided lecture notes**
- **Graphic organizers**
- **Color**
- **Written reviews for exams**
- **Overhead projector**

“Visual Posting”



Teaching Methods

(continued)

Give Extra Help

- **Paired learning**
- **Peer tutoring**
- **Teacher aides**
- **Private tutors**

Interactive Learning/Keep Class Active

- **Group response**
- **Hands on learning**

"Anatomy Lab"



Skeletons



Heart Diagrams



Dr. Billie
Abney

Study/Test Reviews

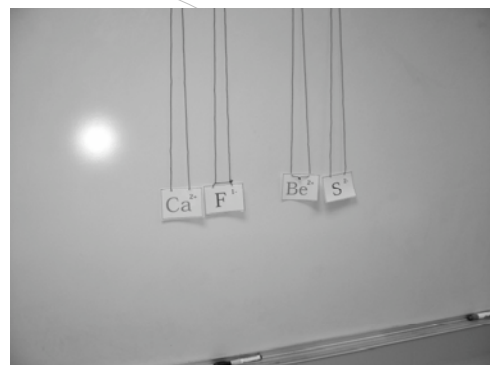
- Give guided lecture notes
- Verbally emphasize key points
 - "This is important"; "Remember this"
- Consider Games (move & discuss)
 1. 3 person teams; answer questions; earn points; winning team picks reward (state test)
 2. Work stations for review; students rotate to each station: 45 seconds to answer each question.
 3. "Two truths & a lie"
 4. Text messaging answers; teams

Abney, Zeigler Dendy, Linda Tilton

Chemistry Bingo



Dating Elements



Assignments

Reduce Written Work & Memory Demands

- Shorten assignments
- Dictate to a scribe
- Use a computer
- Reduce notetaking
 - NCR paper
 - Notes from another student
- Write answers only; not questions
 - Photocopy page; write answers
- Give creative assignments
- Give choices

100 Point Spelling Contract

Jonathan Jones, CEO, SOAR Camping Program

- 20 Write words on flash cards.
- 20 Write words 5 times.
- 20 Type words times.
- 40 Use words in a sentence.
- 20 Write words in ABC order.
- 40 Write antonyms for words
- 40 Write definitions for words.
- 20 Illustrate words.
- 20 Air write words
- 20 Build words with letter tiles. (Scrabble)

Assignments

(continued)

Reduce Written Work & Memory Demands

- Ensure homework is known
 - Webpage, row captain, assignment book
- Give word banks or calculators
 - Provide prompts for essay exams; starter sen.
- Teach memory strategies
- Use graphic organizers
- Use spell and grammar check
- Give extra book for home

Assignments

Long-term Assignments

- Break into segments
 - Give separate due dates & grades
- Utilize a graphic organizer
- Notify parents of project & due dates

Testing & Grading

- Extended time on tests
- Recognition tests vs. recall
- Adjust grading techniques
 - Earn extra credit
 - Drop lowest grade
 - Correct wrong answers for extra credit
- Accommodations for special testing
- Teach test taking skills

Test Taking Strategies

- Try "brain dumping".
- Don't go back and change answers.
 - (Stick with first choice.)
- Spend more time on part worth most points.
- Mark out answers using *absolute words* – always, never, none, all, only.
 - T/F with these words are usually false.
 - Often, rarely, generally are usually true.
- Matching questions; columns equal, use > once?

Deshler, Crutsinger, Rief

“Test-wiseness” Strategies

(Deshler)

- Start working ASAP.
- Skip items you don't know; mark and come back.
- Schedule time wisely.
- Read directions very carefully.
- Guess if it doesn't count off, or counts < right one.
- Mark out obvious wrong answers; (absurd)
- Mark out if 2 options mean same thing.
- Use stem-option;
 1. similarities in root word; monglymatic/triglymatic acid
 2. consonant/article agreement ; an...acid, not base
- Pick obviously longer answers (3-4 words)

Structure & Supervision

- Recruit other students
 - Row captains
 - Classmates
- Meet at locker after school
 - (point of performance supervision)
- Involve teacher aides, parents, or a coach
 - Check homework
 - Monitor weekly report
 - Search : Pelham school home report

Technology

- Use a computer
 - Academic software
 - Inspiration, Kidspiration,
 - Dragon naturally speaking
 - Make up courses
 - Earn extra credit to graduate
 - Correspondence courses
 - Keyboarding
- Books on tape
- WatchMinder
- Electronic scheduler; Palm Pilot

Proactive Classroom Management

- Post 3-5 rules/behavioral expectations (pictures)
- Teach procedures & routines
- Use teacher proximity & movement
- Use signals and visual prompts
- Greet students by name at the door
- Write the assignment on the board
- Monitor student behavior
- Give positive attention; reward good behavior
- Ignore some behavior
- Avoid problems with activity changes

S. Rief, CHADD Educator's Manual

Classroom Management

Use of Rewards

- Give points for academic knowledge.
- Class earns a reward by earning 10 points.
- Reward determined by roll of a die.
 - What is the meaning of this new word?
- List six rewards on a poster
 - A food treat, extra credit, computer or free time
 - Fish bowl, ask question; if don't know, ask another

Lisa Peterson, USA Today All-USA Teacher

Resources

- CHADD Educators' Manual; Zeigler Dendy
- www.chrisdendy.com; www.chadd.org; www.help4adhd.org
- Middle & High School:
 - Teaching Teens with ADD and ADHD; CAZD
 - Teaching Adolescents with LD; Don Deschler
 - A Bird's-eye View of Life with ADD & ADHD: CAZD & AZ
- Elementary:
 - How to Reach & Teach Students with ADD/ADHD; S Rief
 - Creative Coaching (social skills); www.youthlight.com
 - Google: Pelham school home report card