

### Learner Characteristics

## Determine your target student's strengths, needs and preferences.

- Attends to an activity or listens to a story for a few minutes?
- Makes choices/decisions when (limited) options are provided?
- Indicates "Yes/No" response to literal questions?
- Recalls some facts/basic information previously learned?
- Answers 'What' 'Where' and 'When' questions?
  Able to generalize when provided with multiple
- o Able to generalize when provided with multiple opportunities to practice in various settings?

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Draw a conclusion or make a prediction?

### Learner Characteristics

### Student's strengths, needs and preferences

- Makes a choice between 2 items given representational objects related to the activity?
- Reach for an object with hand or eye gaze or body movement or body orientation?
- Shows increased vocalization in response to person or activity or object?
- Smiles in response to social, visual, auditory, and/or tactile input. Shows change in affect?
- Activates an AT device to obtain something or to respond to questions?
- Orients towards sound through head turn?
   What are some motivators specific to the student?

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### Applying UDL Guidelines

- Provide multiple, flexible options for engagement. Various opportunities are provided to engage student's interest, offer appropriate challenges, increase motivation and gain student response. The Why of Learning
  - Art, dramatic plays, games, toys, books, songs, concrete items with varied textures, sizes and shapes, computer software, etc.
- <u>Provide multiple, flexible methods of presentation.</u> Information is presented in variety of formats, and at different complexity levels to address needs. <u>The What of Learning</u>
- Power point, interactive graphics, simulations, story boards, physical objects, auditory cues, photographs, manipulatives, etc.
- Provide multiple, flexible methods of action and expression. Offer a variety of formats - <u>flexible methods</u> - for student to respond, navigate through information and activities and demonstrate what he/she knows. <u>The How of Learning</u>
- Verbal response, pointing, manipulating picture symbols or concrete objects, using AT devices to communicate and respond, partial participation, etc.

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### Supportive Learning Environment -1

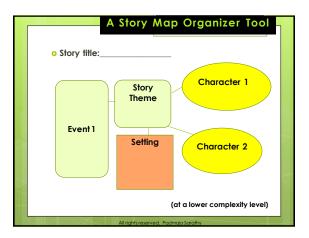
- Incorporate UDL at the initial phase of planning, your design of the environment and instructional delivery.
- Ensure the physical environment of the classroom is organized, visually appealing and inviting.
- Offer <u>structure and predictability with consistent routines</u> to reduce stress and anxiety levels.
- Provide <u>clear visual boundaries with clearly defined areas</u> for different activities and learning stations.
- Have available and <u>use varied materials to address diverse</u> needs, skill levels and preferences.
- Appropriate supports are routinely implemented to increase students' active participation – Visual supports, Individual Activity Schedule, etc.
- Provide <u>a designated calming space</u> for children to take a break to calm down when feeling restless or agitated.

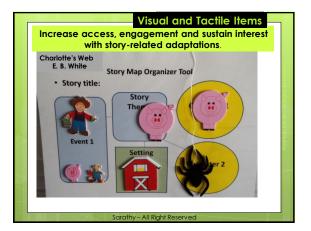
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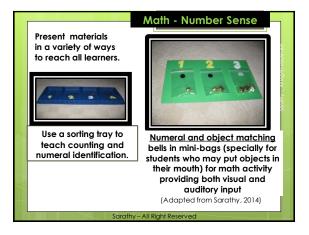
### Supportive Learning Environment -2

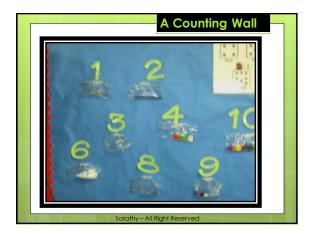
- <u>Familiarize students with the materials</u> (touch, look, listen and smell).
- Position students appropriately to suit the specific activity.
- <u>Stabilize materials</u>: Objects/book/card, etc. on the table surface or on a mini-white board or in a tray attached with Velcro/tape.
- Use an adaptive grip to grasp/hold objects with a Velcroed glove or Velcrowrist band (for students with limited motor control).
- <u>Provide tactile, visual and verbal</u> supports that are student-specific.
- Provide visual alternatives for auditory information. Increase access, engagement and sustain interest.

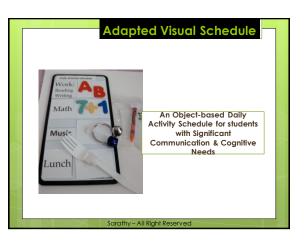












### **Collaborative Teaming of Professionals & Family**

- A collaborative teaming to enable student success -Teachers, speech, OT, PT and administrator team together at the initial planning phase to problem-solve and explore diverse ways to advance academic & functional goals:
  - Understand learner's cognitive, communication, motor and behavioral needs.
  - How-to adapt activities and materials to match needs.
  - Gather input from family.

### • Partner with the family.

- Ensure that there is a system in place to communicate with parents about their child's activities, concerns and progress on a routine (daily) basis.
- Assemble a home-learning kit corresponding to the school activities & materials.
- Be sensitive to cultural differences and respect different family styles, preferences, and traditions.
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### Effective Instructional Delivery

- <u>Activate prior knowledge</u> to increase access to new instructional information.
- Draw student's attention with hands-on activities with multi-sensory features.
- <u>Use real-life activities.</u>
- Engage student's attention by tapping on the picture and/or object associated with the lesson/concept/story (attached to a mini white board).
- <u>Maintain attention</u> by illuminating the pictures and key words in the adapted book with shining a light from behind (Downing, 2005).
- Note all initiations by the student how the student initiates through sounds, movements and changes in state and affect.
  - Demonstrate the techniques to parents during a virtual session.
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### Instructional Delivery

- <u>Power Point Presentations</u> to present content-area lessons and stories to build concept knowledge.
- <u>Visual aids</u> (graphic organizers, story boards) to teach vocabulary/concepts.
- <u>Concrete objects, photos, & auditory input</u> to aid comprehension of text passages or stories.
- <u>Real events</u> like breakfast time, lunch-time, dismissal time, etc. to teach time concepts.
- Hands-on activities and real-life situations to instruct Math and Science.
- <u>Drama and Role-play</u> techniques to promote concept-knowledge, communication, social skills, and vocational skills.

### Use adapted books, 3-column choice charts, power point presentations, graphic organizer tools, timeline, response-participation tools, adapted cuff, manipulatives & consected librate cute (and division)

manipulatives & concrete items, etc. (and during your virtual lessons). Share a set with parents.
Demonstrate to parents: How to use manipulatives & concrete items as supports, how to provide optimal level of prompts to promote learner independence.
Share brief how-to videos.
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### Systematic Instruction - Delivery

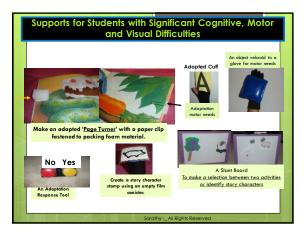
- Use systematic instruction (an evidence based practice) to teach academic and functional skills.
- Make effective <u>use of prompts</u> when presenting information. Gradually fade the prompts.
  - Use system of least prompts, time delay and error correction.
  - Limit the amount of totally hand-over-hand activity – the adult controls, manipulates and performs the activity for the student.
- Break down complex tasks into smaller parts to teach new concepts and to increase student's success with learning Task-analytic instruction.
- <u>Reteach, repeat and lots of opportunities to practice.</u>
   Same lesson across days and use of consistent language.

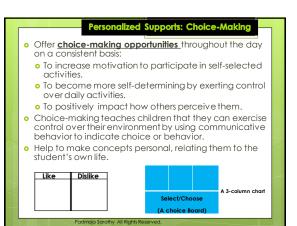
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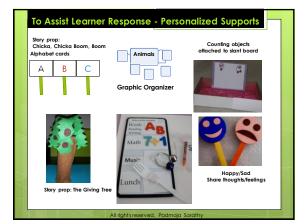
### Promoting Learner Response

- Provide for multiple ways the student is able to actively respond during the activity/lesson:
  - Respond in complete sentences/phrases.
  - Use 'Yes/No' participation cards.
  - Read the text with the aid of the picture cues.
  - Point to pictures or objects related to story as story or text passage is read.
  - Make a choice between 2-3 options given with or without the aid of AT.
  - Touch and manipulate the item.
  - Reach for the target item with eye-gaze or body orientation or facial expression.
  - Activate an AT device to respond (gain a voice).

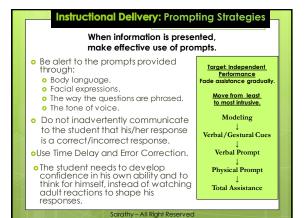
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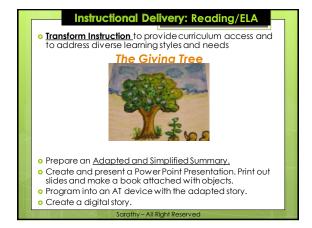




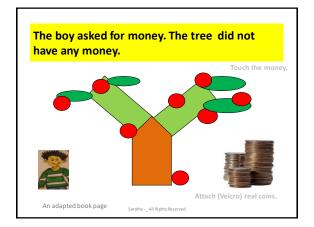


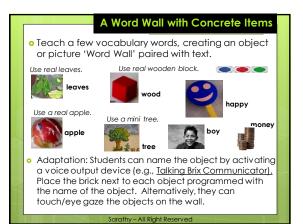


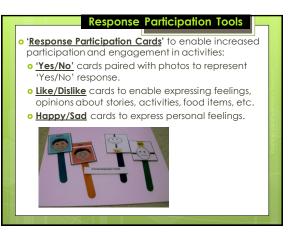










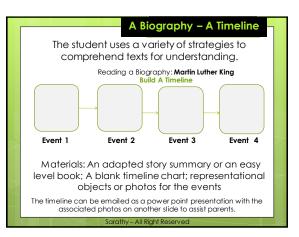


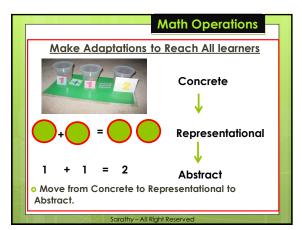
### **Instructional Delivery - Writing** • The students write a story about 'Trees' using teacher prepared frame sentences. • Students place an object or a photo in the blank from the Object/Photo Word Bank below to complete the frame sentence to build the story: The trees are part of nature. Trees have \_\_\_\_\_ and branches. They help people in many ways. Trees give \_\_\_\_\_\_ to build houses and \_\_\_\_\_\_ to eat. • Have the student with the most significant disabilities select and place/touch/acknowledge the item -object or photo -- to indicate her/his response. Aid with an AT communication device to make choices if needed. Object/Photo Word Bank wood leaves innles money

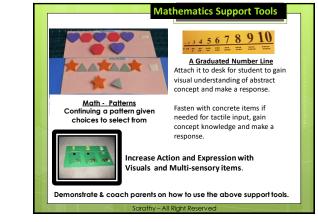
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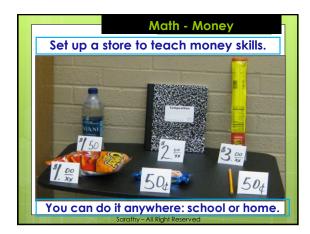
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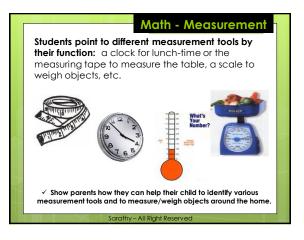
## Different ways learners can respond and be actively involved • A group project: developing a recipe book working together with a group and assisted with peer support • Learner responds in multiple ways: • Assists with developing the text (step-by-step directions for recipe) • Identifies ingredients for the recipes included in book • Identifies two food pictures that go with the recipe • Do you have a title for your recipe? • Do you have a title for your recipe? • Do you have step by-step directions for preparing the recipe? • Have you added pictures to your recipe? • Do you have step by-step directions for any errors and correct them? • A checklist is provided to group to assist with the creation of the recipe book.

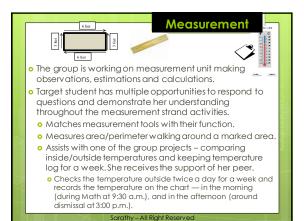


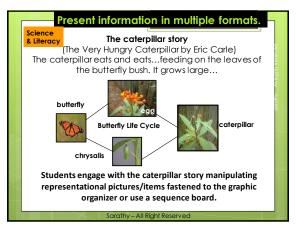


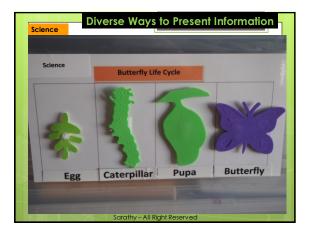


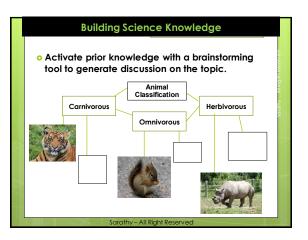


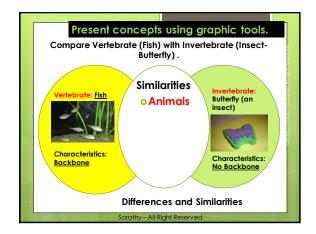


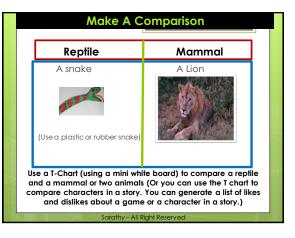












### **Teaching Communication Skills**

- <u>Create situations in which self-initiated behavior</u> and communication will occur.
- <u>Increase social responsiveness</u> student reacting to some input from the environment.
- <u>Structure the environment to facilitate student</u> <u>communication and choice-making to occur</u>.
- Facilitate opportunities to connect with peers.
- Design a communication plan for your students.
- <u>Use it daily to ensure a structured and intensive</u> <u>program</u> to teach and build on communication, choice-making and literacy skills.

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Case Example (continued)           Form of Communication:         Case Example (continued)           Form of Communication:         B body orientation B Facial Expression (limited)           Function of the Communication:         B Request B Protest B Make a choice           B Social Interaction B Convey Greetings B Show interest in an object, person or an activity B Actively participate in an activity				
Activity	Attendance	Literacy	Art-Painting	
Symbol	Photo ID card with a concrete icon	Reach & hold book; Point & hold props	Paint brush	
Communication Opportunity	Touch photo card; vocalize to indicate presence; press device to hear name	Vocalize; show affect; Manipulate book & props to actively participate; Use Yes/No cards	Follow directions; Make choices; Indicate Yes/No & Like/Dislike	
Equipment Used: Material Support; Technology Tools	Photo with adapted grip; Activate a device to say "name"	Book; Story Props; and AT device with a recording of story	Adapted brush; AT tools – voice output devices, Choice charts	
Monitoring Person	Paraeducator/ Peer support	Teacher/Therapist/ Para/Peer support	Teacher/Para	

### Personalize Delivery

- Jordan has a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorders. Capable
   of verbal skills, he communicates using single words/phrases.
- He does not initiate much communication with peers.
  Exhibits tantrum behavior when asked to stop a preferred
- activity or change to a new activity.
- What are some tools and techniques that will help Jordan?
- Adapted summaries of text
- Graphic Organizers (Concept map, Venn-diagram, etc.)
- <u>Writing templates</u> to write stories aided with a word bank and a writing frame.
- Role-play and games to increase communication with peers
- Collaborative projects with an assigned peer mentor.
- <u>On-going behavior supports</u> (Visual supports Rule cue Cards, Ifthen cards)

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### Personalize Delivery- Scenario 2

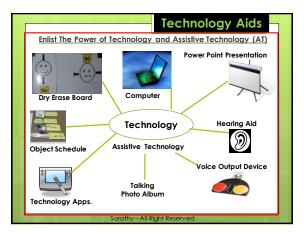
- Ana has visual impairment and also has ADHD. She is verbal, can use limited words but tends to perseverate.
- can use limited words but tends to perseverate. • Likes to move around the room.
- Has difficulty comprehending when new concepts are presented; reading the text and processing the information.
- Use concrete and tactile items, to manipulate items to increase motivation and to sustain engagement.
- Use novel items to gain focused attention, to assist with
- working memory and understanding.
  Lots of hands-on activities, a choice board (a miniboard) with real items linking to concepts & to attract
- and sustain attention • Use 'Rule Cues' cards paired with tactile items to remind
- her to return to the seat (along with soft whispering).
  Attach a preferred item at desk paired with photo and
  - name.
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### Personalize Delivery- Scenario 3

 Simone has cerebral palsy and her communication and motor difficulties present some challenges to her active participation. Due to her motor difficulties, she needs adaptations to hold a pencil crayon or brush.
 Friendly by nature, she smiles a lot. She uses a few gestures to communicate but does not use words. She has limited attention span, gets distracted and experiences difficulty with recall.

- Use of real concrete items to represent concepts.
- · Presenting limited text and information at a given time.
- An adapted book fastened with picture/object supports
- Lots of hands-on activities, a choice board (a miniboard) with real items linking to concepts & to attract and sustain attention
- Use of AT for communication and engagement (A few examples are: Proximity switch, iTalk2Communicator, TalkingBrix Communicator, TalkBook Four, etc.)
- Adapted cuff to grasp writing tool, spoon, pencil, brush, etc.
- Share the tools and techniques with family.

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### Advance Academic & Social Outcomes

- <u>Monitor progress systematically and consistently to</u> <u>advance student growth.</u>
  - Ensure data is collected regularly on a scheduled system to monitor student progress in targeted learning objectives both in academic content and functional life skills.
  - Modify & Reteach as needed.
- Choreograph effective paraeducator support: Ensure it is non-intrusive and optimal to advance student's self-dependence.
- <u>Facilitate peer support</u>: Peers Can be an important form of support for academic performance and to build social connections.

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### **The Main Sources**

The material for this presentation is mainly drawn from my books published by LRP Publications:

Serving Students with Severe and Multiple Disabilities: A Guide to Strategies for Successful Learning. (Second Edition, 2014). (www.lrp.com)



The book focusing on Significant Disabilities Students With Significant Disabilities: At the Crossroads of IDEA and ESSA: Aligning Standards-based Instruction, Alternate Assessments, and IEPs with UDLbased Instructional Techniques and Technology. Sarathy, P. (2017). LRP Publications. (www.lpp.com)

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### Resources

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### Resources

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- Striking a balance between NCLB and IDEA for Students with Significant Disabilities: Techniques and Tools for Aligning Standards-based Instruction, Alternate Assessment and IEP. Sarathy, P. (2017). LRP Publications, PA.
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### Web Resources

- Bridging Apps, offers helpful resources and ideas for educators, parents and students: <u>https://www.bridgingapps.org/</u>
- Tar Heel Reader: (<u>https://tarheelreader.org/find/</u>) offers a collection of free, easy-to-read, and accessible books on a wide range of topics. Each book can be speech enabled and accessed using multiple interfaces, including touch screens, the IntelliKeys with custom overlays, and 1 to 3 switches.
- UDL website: (Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST) http://www.cast.org/research/udl/index.html
- UDL Resources and Tips: <u>http://castprofessionallearning.org/free-udl-resources-</u> <u>and-tips/</u>

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## Thank You.

To all our participants for joining this virtual presentation and To CEC-CCC division for organizing this professional development session

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