



# Researching Learning Challenges



# What is Intellectual Disability?

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- Mental disability that affects intellectual and adaptive functioning.
- Characterized by:
  - Limitations in intellectual behavior (problem solving, mental capacity, e.ct)
  - Limitations in adaptive behavior (communication/social skills)
  - Some show behavioral changes(hyperactivity, restlessness, etc.)
- Shows symptoms during the developmental period, which is until age 18.
- Treatment, such as therapy, can help, but ID can not be cured.



# Treatment for Intellectual Disability

## Therapy:

For severe cases:

- Behavior therapy: Focuses on changing harmful behaviors.
- Sensory processing: Involves the nervous system, which receives messages from senses and as a result, people respond with appropriate motor behaviors.

## Therapists:

- Occupational therapists: improves daily living of patients.
- Speech therapists: helps people with speech problems.



# Spectrum of Intellectual Disability

## **Mildly Disabled:**

- Kids can obtain information by themselves until about 6th grade
- May need occasional help with certain tasks

## **Moderately disabled:**

- Can do work and self care tasks, but more help is needed

## **Severely disabled:**

- Can only execute basic skills on their own.

## **Profoundly disabled:**

Can potentially do basic skills with guidance, require high amounts of supervision



# Different types of Intellectual Disability

## Down Syndrome:

- Baby is born with an extra chromosome 21.
- Symptoms noticeable by physical features



## Fragile X Syndrome:

- Symptoms: Development delay, anxiety, autism-like behaviors

## Autism:

- Inappropriate social interaction
- Difficulty learning quickly -anxiety

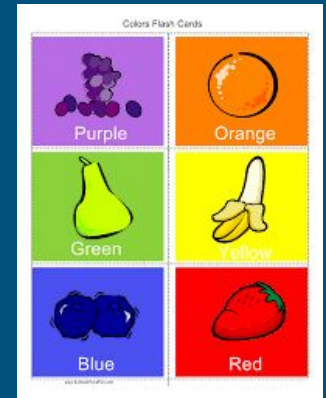


## ADHD:

- Limited attention span
- Can include anger, boredom, etc.

# Solutions to help kids with Intellectual Disability

- Provide them with a clear and simple outline of what they will be learning for the day
- Use more color and visual aids!
- Intersperse assignments, so students won't get too overwhelmed and/or feel pressured
- Have checkpoints more often with drafts of assignments and one on one conferences



# Why these techniques are good for the classroom

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- Can easily be implemented without interfering with other teaching methods in classrooms.
- Students with intellectual disabilities will feel more comfortable with teacher.
- Students with intellectual disabilities will understand concepts at a more comfortable pace.
- Schedule will be easier for kids with intellectual disabilities to follow.

*Thank you for listening!*

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# Works Cited

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