

Education

Teaching Children with Autism: A resource guide for schools

This is a 141 page manual produced by the British Columbia Ministry of Special Education. The chapters cover such topics as classroom planning, managing difficult behaviours, and students with Asperger's Syndrome, and developing an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Requires Adobe Reader to view.

<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/specialed/docs/autism.pdf>

Teaching Students with Autism: ERIC Digest

Produced by the ERIC Clearinghouse on Disabilities and Gifted Education, this is a quick introduction to autism for educators. It briefly covers such topics as general considerations of teaching children with autism, motivational support, behaviour support, and references for further reading.

<http://ericdigests.org/2000-3/autism.htm>

Autism and the Inclusion Mandate

This is a thought provoking article from the pages of Education Next, a peer reviewed journal from the Hoover Institute, a public policy research center associated with Stanford University in the U.S. The article is about the mandate of inclusion, the realities of current practice and philosophies in schools across the U.S., and what is needed to make inclusion truly a meaningful experience. A worthwhile article for parents, educators and policymakers.

<http://www.educationnext.org/20041/42.html>

Guidelines for teaching students with Asperger syndrome in further education colleges

This is a good introduction for high school, community college and university educators who might have students with Asperger Syndrome in their classrooms. The article gives a good overview of Asperger Syndrome, a list of very practical ideas for making the education experience less stressful for both the student and the teacher, and problems that can arise with possible solutions. From the well-respected National Autistic Society in the United Kingdom.

<http://www.nas.org.uk/nas/jsp/polopoly.jsp?d=129&a=2232>

Developing the Knowledge and Skills of Paraprofessionals

This is the "findings" section of a larger study entitled Employing, Developing, and Directing Special Education Paraprofessionals in Inclusive Education Programs: Findings from a Multi-Site Case Study (July, 2003) from the University of Minnesota. This study makes recommendations, among other things, for administrative support, collaboration and job embedded professional development for the special education paraprofessionals. There is a lot of information in this study, but worth the look of educators, policy makers, parents and anyone interested in the role of educational program assistants in the classroom.

<http://ici.umn.edu/products/spedpara/section4b.html>

The entire study can be found at:

<http://ici.umn.edu/products/spedpara/titlepage.html>

Understanding Friends: A program to educate children about differences, and to foster empathy

This is an excellent introduction to some peer education and peer empathy exercises for educators who have a student with autism in their classroom.

http://www.udel.edu/bkirby/asperger/faherty_friends.html