

Five Effective Instructional Strategies: Students with Dyslexia in the Classroom

What are instructional strategies?

Instructional strategies refer to the learning techniques a teacher uses to help students learn or gain a better understanding of the course material (Persaud, 2020).

1. Simplify Written Directions:

Students with dyslexia can often find it hard to follow complicated written directions. Long directives in paragraph form should be broken down into bullet points. Teachers can also use highlighting to help students with dyslexia focus on the main points of the directions.

2. Break Down Assignments:

It is important to break down reading and writing assignments into small increments for students with dyslexia. By breaking down assignments into smaller pieces, students with dyslexia will be able to complete reading and writing assignments without getting overwhelmed.

3. Teach Phonology:

People with dyslexia have a difficult time distinguishing between short vowel sounds, and between certain consonant sounds (such as f and h). By teaching to improve phonemic awareness, students with dyslexia can gain the ability to match sounds with letters.

4. Teach Syllable Construction and Division:

Students with dyslexia, or any student who struggles with reading, can benefit from learning how syllables are constructed, and how multisyllable words are divided. Students with dyslexia often try to guess at longer words, which impairs their spelling and reading proficiency. By learning how syllables are constructed, and how longer words are divided, students can break words apart into smaller segments, which is an effective technique for reading and writing unfamiliar words.

5. Use Assistive Technology:

Teachers should consult the IEP and support staff to find out what assistive technologies students with hearing impairment require in the classroom. Text-to-speech software, spell checkers, and audiobooks are effective assistive technology tools that can be very helpful to students with dyslexia.

References

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- IDA. (2015). *Dyslexia in the classroom: What every teacher needs to know*. Baltimore; International Dyslexia Association.