

Five Effective Instructional Strategies: Students with Orthopedic Impairment 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. Make the Classroom Accessible:

Teachers should make sure that their classrooms are set up to accommodate students with orthopedic impairment. Desks should be far enough apart to allow for wheelchair and crutches access. Walkways to doors and resources should remain free of clutter and be wide enough to allow wheelchairs to pass through.

2. Make the School Accessible:

Administrators should be sure that their school building is ADA compliant, and that students with orthopedic impairments have access to classrooms, bathrooms, different floors, and recess areas..

3. Use the Buddy System:

Students with an orthopedic impairment can benefit from being paired with a helpful peer, who can assist them in navigating the school, and assist them with carrying items..

4. Allow for Early Dismissal:

Orthopedically impaired students can find it hard to navigate between classrooms in a timely manner, depending on the severity of their disability. Allow students with an orthopedic impairment to leave class early so that they can get to their next class on time.

5. Use Assistive Technology:

Teachers should consult the IEP and support staff to find out what assistive technologies students with an orthopedic impairment require in the classroom. Make sure to have the necessary assistive devices available to your students with orthopedic impairment.

References

Gargiulo, R. M., & Bouck, E. C. (2018). Chapter 5: Assistive Technology. In Special education in contemporary society: an introduction to exceptionality (pp. 135–158). SAGE Publications, Inc.