1. Assessment & Testing

Different Roads: Assessments and ABA Tools: http://www.difflearn.com/category/Autism-ABA-Tools

Child Diagnostics: Diane Craft: http://stores.diannecraft.org/

Little Giant Steps: http://www.littlegiantsteps.com/

Unlocking Potentials: General Test for Developmental Delays:

http://www.wpspublish.com/store/p/2734/developmental-assessment-of-young-children-se

cond-edition-dayc-2

Homeschool4U Special Needs Testing:

http://www.homeschoolworks4u.com/struggling-learners/

Brain Balance Pre-Assessment Tool:

http://www.brainbalancecenters.com/understanding-the-issues/online-assessment-tool/

Gemiini: http://gemiini.org/solutions
Lexercise: http://gemiini.org/solutions

LDhope: http://ldhope.com/abouteli/how-eli-works/testing-only/

UO DIBLES Data System: https://dibels.uoregon.edu/assessment/

Bipolar Assessment: http://bipolarchild.com/assessment/

Diagnostic Learning Services:

http://diagnostic-learning.com/learning-disorders?gclid=COrP KjVhMgCFQ8uaQodeBICK

Α

Family Hope Center: http://www.familyhopecenter.com/customized_treatment

2. Assistive Technology

Apps for People with Disabilities:

http://www.easterseals.com/explore-resources/living-with-disability/app-recommendations-for-pw d.html

EnableMart: https://www.enablemart.com/

Especial Needs: http://www.especialneeds.com/

Special Needs Apps: http://www.friendshipcircle.org/apps/

KinderTown: http://www.kindertown.com/

Free Audio Books:

http://www.scholastic.com/parents/blogs/scholastic-parents-raise-reader/free-audio-books-and-why-you-should-try-them?utm_source=September+2013+newsletter&utm_campaign=SeptOct2013&utm_medium=email

For parents and families, the Family Center on Technology and Disability hosts a <u>resource review</u> <u>database</u> listing hundreds of assistive and instructional technology resources including books, articles, research, and other materials.

Understood – Assistive Technology Resources:

 $\underline{\text{https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/assistive-technology/assistive-technologies-basic}} s$

<u>Common Sense Media</u> has an online resource and downloadable guide, "<u>Power Up! Apps for Kids with Special Needs and Learning Differences</u>."

<u>Graphite</u>, a service of Common Sense Media, also maintains a collection of reviews of <u>Great Special Ed Apps and Sites</u> recommended by educators and experts working with children with special needs and learning differences.

<u>Assistive Technology: a Parent's Guide</u>, from <u>GreatSchools</u>, includes articles and worksheets to help parents identify assistive technology tools and resources that can help bypass learning difficulties.

Assistive Technology 101 from The Family Center on Technology and Disability (FCTD) is another good resource; FCTD also provides helpful fact sheets for parents related to AT and IEPs, Assistive Technology Laws, terminology via an AT glossary, and family information guides (also available in Spanish).

Joanne Karger, J.D., Ed.D. and Mary Brownell, Ph.D. offer helpful advice in this video on Assistive Technology and Learning Disabilities

Creating a "Least Restrictive Environment" with Mobile Devices, by Beth Holland (2013)

Disabled Bodies, Able Minds, by Diane Curtis (2005)

3. Autism resources

Autism Tool Kit: http://autism-support.org/autism-resources/autism-tool-kit/

General Help with Autism: http://www.autism-help.org/index.htm

Social Thinking Autism Resources:

http://www.socialthinking.com/Products?id={954D6901-6721-4846-8092-5155C412AFB7} #f:dlb=[asperger%27s%20syndrome]

Autism Speaks: https://www.autismspeaks.org/

I Hate to Write – Autism spectrum focus:

 $\underline{\text{http://www.amazon.com/Hate-Write-Disorders-Achievement-Successful/dp/1937473112/re}$

f=asap bc?ie=UTF8

Jed Baker Autism Resources: http://www.jedbaker.com/

Future Horizons: http://fhautism.com/
TeachTown: http://web.teachtown.com/

Teaching Note for instructing children with autism: Recent research has shown that children on the autism spectrum learn better when they are taught within the context of subjects they are interested in and while not all of a child's education can be linked to his/her favorite subject, it is possible to use unit studies with pre-high school level children (there are a few high school level unit studies too) to combine many of their favorite activities or interests with basic school subjects when taught within a unit study. To find some of the best unit studies that are available to homeschoolers, visit Cathy Duffy's site: http://cathyduffyreviews.com/unit-studies/unit-studies-index.htm

4 DOCUMENTATION

Care Binder Outlines and Help:

http://www.chop.edu/health-resources/care-binders-organizing-your-care#.Vf2QLH3ugY0

IEP Planning for a Bipolar Child: http://bipolarchild.com/resources/model-iep/

Home School Record Keeping Forms: http://www.donnayoung.org/index.htm

Home School Record Keeping Resources:

http://www.sheknows.com/parenting/articles/1015369/homeschool-record-keeping

Free Printables and Gradebooks: http://fivejs.com/

Homeschool Tracker (Free):

http://www.homeschooltracker.com/free-homeschool-tracker-basic-edition/

Online Lesson Planner, Scheduler & Tracker:

http://www.homeschoolskedtrack.com/HomeSchool/displayLogin.do

Lap Book Resources: http://homeschoolhelperonline.com/lapbooks/

5. ELECTIVE COURSE RESOURCES

Atelier Art: http://www.homeschoolart.com/

Game Ed Academy – Minecraft school: http://gamedacademy.com/

Bible: http://www.picturesmartbible.com/

Visual Geography: http://www.visualizeworldgeography.com/

High School Science – 101 Series: http://the101series.com/index.html

Spanish: http://www.funclase.com/

A Reason for Science: http://areasonfor.com/scienceinfohome.html

6. LEARNING STYLE RESOURCES

The Way They Learn:

 $\underline{\text{http://www.focusonthefamily.com/promos/how-kids-learn?gclid=COawkuHVhMgCFQ6saQodh\ kINQ}$

Mind Tools: https://www.mindtools.com/mnemlsty.html

VARK: http://vark-learn.com/

Learning Styles: http://www.learningstyles.net/

What is my learning style: http://www.whatismylearningstyle.com/

Cornerstone - Learning Style Strategies:

http://www.cornerstoneondemand.com/explanation-learning-styles

7. Full Curriculum Options

Ambleside Online: http://amblesideonline.org/index.shtml

Easy Peasy All In One Homeschool: http://allinonehomeschool.com/

Discovery K12 (Not online public school): http://discoveryk12.com/dk12/

The Jubilee Academy: http://thejubileeacademy.org/

Firelight – Adapted high school curriculum:

http://www.firelightbooks.com/categories/HIGH-SCHOOL-CURRICULUM%2C-GR-2%7B47%7D4-RDG-LEVEL/

Bridgeway Academy:

http://www.homeschoolacademy.com/bridgeway-difference/who-we-serve/homeschooling-a-child-with-learning-disabilities

Memoria Press: http://www.memoriapress.com/curriculum/special-needs

Paradigm Virtual Academy: http://paradigmvirtualacademy.com/
Starfall (PreK & K): http://more.starfall.com/info/homeschool.php

Unique: https://www.n2y.com/products/unique

Timberdoodle:

http://www.timberdoodle.com/Complete Homeschool Curriculum Packages s/363.htm

Time4Learning: https://www.time4learning.com/
ABC Mouse (PreK): https://www.abcmouse.com/

Rod & Staff: http://www.milestonebooks.com/list/Rod and Staff Curriculum/

Time4Learning (PreK – 8):

http://www.time4learning.com/homeschool/homeschooling_special_needs.shtml

Critical Thinking Company (PreK – 6): http://www.criticalthinking.com/full-curriculum

HomeschoolWorks (Grades 5 – 12): http://www.homeschoolworks4u.com/

Unit Studies: To find some of the best unit studies that are available to homeschoolers, visit Cathy Duffy's site: http://cathyduffyreviews.com/unit-studies/unit-studies-index.htm

8. Math Curriculum & Helps

Adapted Mind Math:

http://www.adaptedmind.com/landing-responsivev13.php?utm_expid=33853517-85.aV3h4 8VGQfCtLLYyE2CVew.1

CTC Math: http://ctcmath.com/how-it-works/

Discovery Geometry: http://www.michaelserra.net/weblog/discovering-geometry-intro/

Math Mammoth: http://www.mathmammoth.com/

Math-U-See: http://www.mathusee.com/

Moving with Math: http://www.movingwithmath.com/

Right Start Math: http://rightstartmath.com/
Semple Math: http://www.semplemath.com/

Shiller Math: http://www.shillermath.com/h2/intro.php
Teaching Textbooks: http://www.teachingtextbooks.com/

Times Tales: http://www.timestales.com/learningDisabilities.html

Video Text: http://videotext.com/

Life Of Fred: http://www.lifeoffredmath.com/index.php

Visual Math Learning: http://www.visualmathlearning.com/index.html

Right Brain Math Strategies:

 $\underline{\text{http://stores.diannecraft.org/right-brain-math-also-titled-dyscalculia-taming-the-math-monst}}$

<u>er/</u>

Mathtacular Math Manipulatives: http://www.mathtacular.com/

Touch Math: http://www.touchmath.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=homeschool.welcome

9. Reading & Language Arts Curriculum

Analytic Grammar: http://www.analyticalgrammar.com/
Sound Foundations: http://www.soundfoundations.co.uk/

A Reason for Spelling: http://www.areasonfor.com/spellinginfohome.html

Sequential Spelling: http://www.sequentialspelling.com/Sequential Spelling.html

Sing Spell, Read & Write:

http://www.homeschool-curriculum-savings.com/sing-spell-read-and-write-curriculum.html

Spelling You See: http://spellingyousee.com/

Hand Writing Without Tears (HWT): http://www.hwtears.com/hwt

A Reason for Handwriting: http://areasonfor.com/handwritinginfohome.html

Adapted Mind Reading: http://www.adaptedmind.com/reading.php

Homeschooling with Dyslexia: http://homeschoolingwithdyslexia.com/start-here/

Family Fun with Fluency: http://neuhaus.org/family-fun-with-fluency/

Free E-Books: http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main Page

Gemiini: http://gemiini.org/solutions

Happy Phonics: http://www.lovetolearn.net/Happy-Phonics-Complete-Set

Lexercise: http://www.lexercise.com/

Reading Rockets: http://www.readingrockets.org/helping

I Hate to Write – Autism spectrum focus:

http://www.amazon.com/Hate-Write-Disorders-Achievement-Successful/dp/1937473112/re

f=asap bc?ie=UTF8

Dyslexia Tutoring (League City): http://learnyourway.biz/

Academic Success: http://www.iseesam.com/

Scaredy Cat Reading System: http://www.scaredycatreadingsystem.com/

Real Reading: http://www.realreading.com/

Vocabulary Cartoons: http://www.vocabularycartoons.com/

Stevenson Learning Skills: http://www.stevensonlearning.com/

Andrea Carter – Dyslexia Specialist (Buda Area): 610-350-1379, jcarter31@gmail.com

Right Brain Reading Program: http://stores.diannecraft.org/complete-package/

All About Learning Press: https://www.allaboutlearningpress.com/all-about-reading/

10. Therapy & Teaching Tool Resources

OT Mom Learning Activities: http://www.ot-mom-learning-activities.com/

Ready Bodies: http://www.readybodies.com/

Knowledge Box Central: http://www.knowledgeboxcentral.com/

Tuneville - Teaching Through Music:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCNJrEyldNIVoYWuByVeUKZA/feed

Eye Can Learn – Eye exercise: http://www.eyecanlearn.com/

File Folder Heaven: http://www.filefolderheaven.com/
Homeschool How-tos: http://homeschoolhowtos.com/

Love to Learn: http://www.lovetolearn.net/

Critical Thinking Company: http://www.criticalthinking.com/

Mr Mitchell's Educational Resources:

https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/Christopher-Mitchell

Learning A-Z: https://www.learninga-z.com/index.html
IAHP – Brain Injury Strategies: http://www.iahp.org/
Khan Academy: https://www.khanacademy.org/

NACD Center for Speech and Sound: http://nacd.org/speech_sound/index.php

K5 Learning: http://www.k5learning.com/

Partners Resource Network: http://partnerstx.org/
Preschool Prep: http://www.preschoolprepco.com/

AVCS Bookstore: http://avcsbooks.com/shop/index.php

Social Thinking: http://www.socialthinking.com/Products#f:ctype=[products]

Special Education Station: http://spedstation.com/

Special Needs Homeschooling: http://specialneedshomeschooling.com/

Rethink First (ABA training): https://www.rethinkfirst.com/
Spectacular Kids (ABA training): https://speckidsaba.com/

Different Roads: Assessments and ABA Tools: http://www.difflearn.com/category/Autism-ABA-Tools

PECS (ABA training and products): http://www.pecsusa.com/index.php
First Path Autism (ABA training): http://www.firstpathautism.com/parents/

ABA Sklp Program – Harris County (Houston area): 713-970-7000

Language-Auditory Processing Disorder Strategies:

http://www.superduperinc.com/handouts/pdf/374%20Helpful%20Classroom.pdf

Dyslexia Teaching Strategies: http://dyslexia.yale.edu/1Teacher2Another.html

Teacher Strategies for Dyslexics:

http://www.visd.com/depart/specialprograms/dyslexia/dyslexia handbook teacherstrategies.pdf

Home Speech Home: http://www.home-speech-home.com/

Visual-Spatial Thinking:: http://giftedservices.com.au/visualthinking.html

Special Needs Resources: http://www.friendshipcircle.org/blog/

Homeschooling Strategies for the Blind Student:

http://a2zhomeschooling.com/concerns homeschooling/blind homeschoolers/

OT Resources: https://www.pinterest.com/dynamiclearning/ot-resources/

School OT: http://www.school-ot.com/index.html
Super Star Speech: http://superstarspeech.com/

Mommy Speech Therapy: http://mommyspeechtherapy.com/

Speech Therapy at Home: https://www.pinterest.com/mamajoyx9/speech-therapy-at-home-ideas/

Super Duper Publications – Speech Therapy Products: http://www.superduperinc.com/default.aspx?lid=2418BC4B

Special Needs Homeschooling Helps:

http://a2zhomeschooling.com/concerns_homeschooling/special_needs_kids_homeschooling/

Down Syndrome Homeschooling:

http://a2zhomeschooling.com/concerns_homeschooling/special_needs/down_syndrome_homeschooling/

Tutoring and Consulting: http://lmjolearning.weebly.com/

Bipolar Education Strategies: http://www.thebalancedmind.org/sites/default/files/edbrochure.pdf

Tourette Syndrome Teaching Tips: http://www.tourettesyndrome.net/education/

Bipolar Education Teaching Tips: http://www.bpchildren.org/Teachers.html





A Place to Start: Understanding the present levels of academic achievement and functional performance statement

A student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) team expects special education services to help the student meet their unique needs and prepare him or her for further education, employment, and independent living.¹ As a foundation for higher achievement and IEP goals, the IEP team will identify:

- The child's current levels of learning or performance
- The effect or impact of the child's disability on learning

This process can be compared to planning a trip to another city: You need to know where you are beginning as well what may make your trip more challenging. The team will see where your child is beginning and how the disability impacts learning.

The IEP team, including the parents, will ask these important questions at the annual IEP meeting:

- What are the disability-related challenges affecting the student's progress and participation in the general education curriculum?
- At what academic and functional levels² is the student performing right now? (Where is the student's starting point?)
- What strategies, accommodations, and assistive technology have already been successful for the student's learning? Has the student had an assistive technology evaluation?
- What are the grade-level academic standards³ for the student's grade? How do the student's skills compare to those standards?
- Does the student behave and learn with age-appropriate developmental skills?
- How does the student perform in non-school environments? (Information provided by family)
- What does the student think is working or not working during the school day?
- Is there any other information we need to provide a complete picture of the student?⁴

The answers to these questions will be documented every year as the present levels of academic achievement and functional performance (PLAAFP) statement on the IEP. A student's annual IEP will be the map guiding him or her from beginning levels of performance to higher levels of performance (IEP goals).

The PLAAFP statement will give a snapshot of the student at a particular time and place. It will describe the levels at which the student is currently working academically and functionally. This includes a description of a student's strengths and needs. Areas the team will consider include:

⁴ See PACER's handout "Six Areas that May Affect IEP Services" PACER.org/parent/php/php-c221.pdf



¹ Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) 601(d)(1)

² As used in special education, functional means routine activities of everyday living. Federal Register, August 14, 2006, Analysis of Comments and Changes, page 46661.

³ Minnesota follows a set of academic standards in language arts, math, social studies, English language proficiency and science for kindergarten through 12th grade. The standards describe what all students in a particular grade are expected to know and be able to do. School districts have chosen various curricula to teach these skills to their students.

- Academic
- Communication
- Functional
- General intelligence
- Health
- · Motor or physical
- Sensory (such as vision and hearing)
- Social and emotional
- Transition to postsecondary adult living (beginning in ninth grade)

The PLAAFP statement will include information gathered from various sources including:

- Ending levels of performance on last year's goals
- Any new special education assessment results
- Performance on district and statewide assessments, including identification of skills and knowledge already attained in relation to academic grade-level standards
- · Classroom grades and observations, including behavior data
- Information from the student and parents (you have important information to share about your child and you and school professionals may see your child in different ways in different environments and situations)
- Interests and strengths, including non-curricular areas (these can provide valuable information about a student's abilities, potential for learning, and possible motivators)
- Any strategies, accommodations, or assistive technology devices or services that have already shown success

It is important to note that the student's **regular education teacher**, a required member of the IEP team, is a key team member.⁵

- This teacher is familiar with grade-level and age-level expectations for all children so he or she will know how a student is doing on grade-level skills compared to peers.
- The team will want to make sure that the designated regular education teacher brings the appropriate information to the IEP meeting. For example, an art teacher may be a child's regular education teacher but may not be familiar with the child's reading and math skills.
- Depending on the time of year that the meeting is held, a regular education teacher for the next grade level may be the best source of regular education information needed for development of this IEP.
- Other teachers may attend or submit written information as well.

The information in the PLAAFP section of the IEP should be written in brief, clear, specific, and accurate statements with enough information to describe the student's current skill levels in objective, measurable terms. If scores are reported, they should either be self-explanatory or explained.⁶

The PLAAFP statement will lead to the development of annual goals, accommodations, modifications, and other IEP services. All IEP goals should be connected to the PLAAFP statement. Parents knowledgeable about the PLAAFP statement and the IEP process can be an effective part of the IEP team and help their child work toward higher achievement.

⁶See PACER's Handout PHP-c253, Present Levels of Academic Achievement and Functional Performance (PLAAFP) Examples



⁵ The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) states that the school district must assign one regular education teacher of the student to be at the IEP meeting if the student is or may be participating in the regular education environment during this IEP year. Though parents may agree in writing to excuse one or more IEP team members, PACER recommends that all required IEP team members be present in order to plan an appropriate IEP for a student.

Zoe LaFrombois - Homeschool Curriculum

Teach Town Basics: Appropriate for developmental ages 2-10 and chronological ages 2-22

Blend of computer-delivered/parent-led ABA instruction to increase Zoe's vocabulary, listening skills, social-emotional development, independence, academics and cognitive skills. Automatically adapts based on her progress providing meaningful, progressive instruction. Zoe is actively engaged in lessons via iPad, helping to build independence and increase motivation. Lessons are aligned to Common Core standards and state-specific standards, fulfilling Zoe's goals to address a variety of educational needs.

Six Key Learning Domains and Five Developmental Levels

Adaptive Skills, Cognitive Skills, Language Arts, Language Development, Mathematics, Social and Emotional

Time4Learning:

Curriculum organized by grade levels that cover standards-based math, language arts, science, and social studies curriculum. For teaching students on the autism spectrum, Zoe has access to a range of three grade levels. Her curriculum currently spans Gr. K-2

Language Skills – Provides a comprehensive language arts program with simple vocabulary, verbal comprehension, and following basic instructions.

Computer-Based Instruction – Provides immediate feedback to students and positive reinforcement that keeps Zoe engaged.

Student-Paced – Students progress at their own pace. Additionally, students can be placed at different levels for language arts (2nd) and math (1st). Students have the flexibility to repeat and/or skip lessons, working at a comfortable pace.

Social Skills – Lessons model proper conversation and interactions. For instance, many of the math lessons start with a short conversation between two cartoon characters. This peer interaction helps Zoe understand and learn typical social skills.

Life Skills Academy: by Conover Online

Online video library designed to be used outside the classroom so parents can help learners with disabilities learn how to function independently at home or in the community.

Vooks: Storybooks Brought to Life

Streaming library of read-aloud animated storybooks. Reading 20 minutes a day to build vocabulary, love of reading, immersion, and fluency. Incorporates important characteristics of an effective reading aloud story time by providing a model of fluent, expressive narration with purposeful pacing helping to maintain attention in a positive way that promotes a love of reading and a lifelong impact.

Classical Conversations Homeschool Co-Op:

Tuesdays during school year. Zoe learns alongside neuro-typical students her age & participates in presentations (on iPad), science experiments, art, music, & memory work in various academic areas.

Music Classes: Beginning Band (Percussion) & Cadet Choir (with aide)

Fridays during school year. Participates with adult assistance alongside neuro-typical students

Physical Training: 30 minutes/week

Modified, age-appropriate, functional skills-based circuit training with certified trainer (NFPT)

ABA Therapy: 20+ hours/week with Fox Valley Autism