

I have learned much in this course about taking a positive approach with maladapted students. This past year I had a student in my class diagnosed with 6 mental illnesses and on a very significant 504 behavioral IEP. In my 27 years of teaching, he was one of my most challenging students I have ever worked with. This student had a need for freedom and to do his learning tasks on his terms, in his time, in his way. Any type of direction or management he took as being controlled. This proposed a great challenge at what seemed like every moment, whether it was working with classmates or independently. As I learned more about my student's strengths, I realized tapping into his love for technology, his need for freedom, and his high intellectual abilities, led me to modify his learning tasks in a way in which I had not done before. I decided to utilize technology and create a Google Doc each day of his daily learning tasks that he could take control of and access through Google Classroom from his Chromebook. My student would sometimes engage in what the class was doing when he felt he was in control of making that decision. Otherwise, he would disengage from the group and choose a different learning activity from his list. This modification was a lot of extra work to prepare each morning, however this satisfied his need for freedom and to be in control of his own learning, as well as allowing me the freedom to continue teaching with fewer severe disruptions.

The following is an example of the daily Google Doc of learning activities I created for my student to find success academically and emotionally.

XXXXXX's Daily Learning Activities

Monday February 26th

Learning Activities:

- Weekly Language Review- Week 23 Day 1
- Fluency Fun- Practice Level Y 3 times
- Reader's Notebook page 115- Pronouns
- Bridge to Terabithia- Answer 2 comprehension questions from the packet
- Spelling- Lesson 21- not due until Friday in Google Classroom
- Vocabulary- Lesson 21- not due until Friday in Google Classroom
- Reading- Listen to Lesson 21 stories for the gist
- Write a paragraph about your best weekend and why it was your best
- District Reading/Writing Assessment- problem #2
- Presidential Google Slide Presentation- Abraham Lincoln
- Math- Ready Book "Compare Decimals" Introduction practice pages 218-219
- Timed Test- (5 min.) use online timer
- Karate Math- 1 complete page of Purple Belt (3 Digit x 1 Digit Multiplication)
- iReady- 1 complete lesson

Choice Activities: only when required activities are complete

- Read to Self- Chapter Books
- Book Worm Form
- Epic!
- Karate Math
- Prodigy
- Research a subject of choice and create a Google Slide presentation approved by Mrs. Stauffer

Expectations:

- Work on Learning Activities in order of choice
- Earn a Pride Print for each completed task
- **Ask for help when needed**
- Receive a new list of daily learning activities each day

***Please join us for the whole group activities when you feel like you are able because you are a VERY IMPORTANT part of our learning community. You are so highly intelligent, and your clarifying questions that you ask, along with your insightful comments you make while I am teaching offer much to your classmates who are listening and learning as well.

Have a FABULOUS day of learning!

