Support literacy and numeracy using recommended approaches

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Key areas to support' from the Guide: Down syndrome and learning

**Includes:**
- Use recommended reading activities
- Adopt practical hands-on approaches
- Build phonics skills
- Build auditory memory
- Take a multi-sensory to teaching numeracy
- Useful resources
Use recommended reading activities

Examples of recommended activities to support reading for students with Down syndrome.

- Make short phrases of 2–3 words using previously-learned words. Select words that will have high interest for the student.

- Create sentence strips or Velcro-backed cards. Students can copy a sentence structure to make their own sentences in response to an image.

- Create books with students based on the sight words and sentences they are learning. Give students frequent opportunities to read them.

- Play games using sight words; practise in relevant settings.

- Emphasise and provide practice reading connecting words – for example, “and”, “or” and “but”.

- Use repetitive sentence patterns to help match words to pictures, sequence, predict and expand on their sight words – for example, “I like ...”.
Inclusive Education
From
Guide: Down syndrome and learning
Strategy: Key areas to support
Suggestion: Support literacy and numeracy using recommended approaches
Date
23 January 2019
Link

Adopt practical hands-on approaches

Strategies and practical ideas to support beginning readers with Down syndrome.

Source: DSRFCANADA (Canada)  No captions or transcript
Source:
DSRFCANADA (Canada)
http://youtu.be/oW_sExZjGEs

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Build phonics skills

Activities to support the development of phonics skills and reading fluency.

Source: DSRFCANADA (Canada)  No captions or transcript
Source: DSRFCANADA (Canada)
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCQ9LYhISvhZjqBnokVNAPw

Video hosted on Youtube http://youtu.be/4xabdeH340w
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Build auditory memory

Reading strategies for building auditory memory and sound discrimination for students with Down syndrome.

Source: DSRFCANADA (Canada)  No captions or transcript
Source:
DSRFCANADA (Canada)
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCCQ9LYhlSvhZjqBnokVNAPw
Video hosted on Youtube http://youtu.be/unKZ2Fe5hc
Take a multi-sensory to teaching numeracy

Allow students to develop concepts using all their senses. Connect activities to real life whenever possible.

- Use concrete materials and hands-on activities.
- Maximise the use of visuals and support learning with visual materials, cues and supports where possible.
- Break tasks into small component steps and provide lots of practice and reinforcement.
- Find extra activities to practise and consolidate skills in a range of contexts.
- Revisit and consolidate previously-learned skills before introducing new material that builds on them.
- Relate mathematics to daily living skills wherever possible.
- Use simple language – explicitly teach the language of mathematics alongside the concepts.
- Use app games for skills practice – they increase motivation and allow intensive repetition of skills.
**Useful resources**

**Primary education support pack**

Publisher: Down's Syndrome Association


**Secondary education support pack**

Publisher: Down's Syndrome Association


**Special iApps**

Publisher: Special iApps
