

**Benefits of homeschooling with special needs:**

- ◆ Flexibility — ability to take breaks when needed
- ◆ Individualized Education — one on one time with you
- ◆ Builds strong character both in you and your child — struggles make you work hard

**Strategies that work:**

- ◆ Give First/Then Statements
- ◆ Build in Breaks (provide healthy snacks and lots of water)
- ◆ Provide Brain Breaks (to get heart rate up)
- ◆ Positive Reinforcement
- ◆ Use Visuals: calendar, chore chart, schedules, whiteboard, timers, interactive metronome
- ◆ Teach to interests
- ◆ Look at strengths to develop teaching plan (hyperfocus, easy to engage, observant, hard worker)
- ◆ Integrate graphic organizers
- ◆ Mnemonic flashcards
- ◆ Picture cues
- ◆ Mind maps
- ◆ Don't let feet dangle, use foot rest
- ◆ You want a strong core, 90/90/90 position
- ◆ Try multisensory curriculum and/or Right-brained material
- ◆ Teach organization and time management
- ◆ Use audio books
- ◆ Keep in mind retention rates are highest when kids are teaching others, practicing by doing, discussing, and demonstrating
- ◆ Sometimes ADHD kids need things sped up

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### **Executive Functioning:**

- ◆ Executive Functioning is being able to hold information, adapt to change, prioritize, and focus
- ◆ Movement influences brain functioning skills
- ◆ Ideas to improve executive functioning in your homeschool:
  - learn from cooking
  - take nature walks
  - draw body scan and talk about body
  - use whiteboard
  - team sports can be very good
  - break down big tasks

### **For kids that need alternatives to sitting:**

- ◆ Prone position
- ◆ Supine position
- ◆ Sit on therapy ball or sit disc
- ◆ Stand or Squat
- ◆ Sit on Tea Stool

### **When kids need to sit still to focus, stabilize the body, and respect others:**

- ◆ Lay out expectations (first we are getting in the car, then we will drive here, etc.)
- ◆ What does your child need to do before, during, and after for them to be able to sit?
  - Before sitting still: engage in activities like crawling, pogo jumping, obstacle course
  - During the expected still time: use fidget toys, gum, lap pads, paper clip, flipping pen
  - After sitting: use metacognition skills to think about how you are learning and ask questions: how did your head feel? How did your body feel? What did you learn?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**No Perfect Curriculum... find what works for you!****Possible curriculum to look at using:**

- ◆ Memoria Press Simply Classical Curriculum

**Phonics/Reading:**

- ◆ Pathway Reading/Phonics Pathways
- ◆ Happy Cheetah
- ◆ Right Brain Phonics
- ◆ Phonics & Reading Pure and Simple
- ◆ Reading Reflex
- ◆ Explode the Code
- ◆ All About Reading
- ◆ MaxScholar

**Literature Guides:**

- ◆ Literature Disguised as Fun
- ◆ Edcon

**Spelling:**

- ◆ Sequential Spelling
- ◆ All About Spelling
- ◆ Spelling You See

**English/Writing:**

- ◆ Winston Grammar
- ◆ Writing Skills
- ◆ Easy Grammar
- ◆ Grammar Galaxy
- ◆ Power Basics

**Handwriting:**

- ◆ Cursive Logic
- ◆ Rhythm of Handwriting

**Math:**

- ◆ Math•U•See
- ◆ Math With Confidence
- ◆ Learn Math Fast
- ◆ Math Lessons for a Living Education
- ◆ Key to Math Series
- ◆ Life of Fred Elementary
- ◆ MCP Math
- ◆ Power Basics
- ◆ Bridge the Gap Math
- ◆ Math Essentials: Finding & Filling the Gaps
- ◆ Mastering Essential Math

**History:**

- ◆ Short Lessons in History
- ◆ Power Basics
- ◆ Diana Waring History Revealed
- ◆ Biblioplan
- ◆ Learning American History Through Literature

**Science:**

- ◆ Friendly Science
- ◆ 101 DVD Series
- ◆ God's Design for Science
- ◆ Mystery of Science
- ◆ Power Basics





# Does Your Child **Learn** Differently?



Our consultants talk to many parents of children who learn differently. These challenges vary greatly but, in general, you are some of the most dedicated homeschooling parents—determined to make a difference for your child and break through whatever barriers exist. Our goal: to help however we can by identifying products/programs which will address learning styles, individual strengths and weaknesses, educational goals, and family dynamics (focusing on your personal needs the FAMILY way).

We've compiled a list of some programs that are effective in many of these challenging situations. Included in these lists you'll find products:

- geared to kids who learn differently – for instance, right-brained learners.
- with slower pacing or review.
- adaptable for multisensory learning.

**Simply Classical** (see website) from Memoria Press offers an organized curriculum plan for teaching from a classical education philosophy.

**Dianne Craft** (see website) has adapted Occupational Therapy techniques for home use. *Brain Integration Therapy* is the core of her training. Learn how your child's brain is working and methods (with lesson plans) to rectify learning blocks. Available DVDs help parents apply techniques in teaching.

**Discover!** (Edovate) offers alternate activities and assessments to meet needs of all learners.

**Power Basics** (see website) designs high school courses written at a 4th-5th grade reading level in core subjects: Math, ELA, Science, and Social Studies.

**AOP LIFE PAC**<sup>®</sup>, **Paradigm Accelerated Curriculum**, and **Starline Press** offer curriculum in several subject areas that are divided into self-pacing, short and non-intimidating worktexts.

**Dyslexia Games** (see website) is a series of workbooks that use art and logic to “reprogram the brain” gradually, through research-based activities.

## PHONICS/READING:

### Right Brain Phonics (1-8)

Helps struggling readers “to see”, recall, and remember what is taught.

### Easy-For-Me Reading (PK-3)

Uses techniques known to be successful with picture thinkers, right-brained, kinesthetic, visual, and other nontraditional learners.

### All About Reading (PK-4)

Orton-Gillingham-based program that builds in much review and repetition.

### Happy Cheetah (K-2)

Context-based; integrates phonics and language arts through copywork.

## Pathway Reading (1-8)

Non-distracting Amish-based readers provide fluency practice for struggling readers.

## Reading Reflex (K-3)

Research-based program that teaches the sound-picture code of the written language to develop reading skills and correct ineffective reading strategies.

## Phonics/Reading Pathways (PK-8)

Phonics-based approach to reading/spelling that incorporates visual and eye tracking exercises.

## TouchPhonics (K-5)

Developed by a special education teacher to help struggling readers better grasp phonics through tactile manipulation.

## MaxScholar (PK-12)

Orton-Gillingham based online program, with optional practice workbooks.

## SPELLING:

### All About Spelling (1-9)

Phonics-based with review and repetition.

### Sequential Spelling (1-8)

Originally created for dyslexics. Teaches spelling through a word family, multi-sensory approach.

### Spelling-You-See (1-8)

Systematic, easy-to-use method based on developmental stages.

### Illustrated Book of Sounds & Spelling Patterns (K-3)

Teaches reading and spelling of all sounds that are the basic building blocks of all words. Designed for right brain learners, picture and global thinkers.

## ENGLISH/WRITING:

### Practice Coach Plus ELA (3-8)

Offers diagnostic assessments and has scaffolding instruction.

### Winston Grammar (4-12)

Multi-sensory grammar program.

### Writing Skills (2-12)

Building blocks approach takes students from foundational skills to a five-paragraph essay.

### Thoughtful Learning All Write (5-8)

Remedial option to fill gaps or introduce writing/grammar to an ESL learner using simplified language.

### Moving Beyond the Page (2-10)

Written for gifted learners but provides activities for creative or hands-on learners, allowing for differentiated lessons.

## HANDWRITING:

### Handwriting Without Tears (1-7)

OT-developed writing style with manipulatives.

## Rhythm of Handwriting (PK-8)

Unique style that minimizes fine motor articulation to develop. Tactile card supplements.

## CursiveLogic (1-12)

Uses color grouping, sayings, and tracing to teach or remediate cursive writing.

## MATH:

### Math-U-See (K-12)

Emphasis on concept development. Video-based, teacher-student, hands-on instruction.

### Right Brain Math (K-7)

Teaches the visual spatial learner or right brain learner, who struggles to grasp a typical left-brain focused math program.

### RightStart (K-7)

Offers a comprehensive, multisensory approach that integrates games. Available as a leveled program or in topical Tutoring kits.

### Simply Good & Beautiful Math (K-7)

Lessons teach all learning styles with games, activities, and stories. Grade 7 provides review of basic math prior to Prealgebra.

### Learn Math Fast (1-12)

Streamlined program for targeted skills.

### Math Lessons for a Living Ed. (PK-6)

Story-based math at a more relaxed pace.

### MCP Math (K-6)

Slower-paced traditional math program.

### Life of Fred Math (1-12)

Unconventional, story-based math instruction. Strong on concept development.

### Key to Math Series (4-12)

Skills-focused series with small worktexts that build incrementally.

### Math with Confidence (K-4)

Soft background color with less overcrowding on pages offers an improved visual experience for some students.

## HISTORY:

### Short Lessons in History (5-12)

Bite-sized lessons with mapping cover important historical events for students needing straightforward instruction.

### History Revealed (3-12)

Chronological study of history that focuses on Meyer-Briggs personality types.

## SCIENCE:

### The 101 DVD Series (9-12)

Instructional DVDs with printable resources offer an alternative to textbooks.

### Friendly Science (6-12)

Clearly explains text, easy to follow illustrations and workbook activities provide a straightforward learning experience. Optional videos.