Module Home

**Outline­**

**Instructional Accommodations**:

Making the Learning Environment Accessible to Students with Visual Disabilities

* Module Description: This module highlights tips for modifying lessons and ways to make lessons accessible for students with visual impairments (est. completion time: 1.5 hours).

Challenge

* Video: The first day of school is two days away, and Ms. Milton has …

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Initial Thoughts

* What does Ms. Milton need to know about students with visual impairments?
* What should Ms. Milton consider when creating lesson plans to ensure the inclusion of Evan and Emily?
* How can Ms. Milton facilitate Evan’s and Emily’s social adjustment?

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Perspectives & Resources

* Module Objectives
* Describe how visual impairments impact learning
* Explain the need for an expanded core curriculum for students with visual impairments
* Identify multiple strategies for altering educational materials and teaching methods for students who are blind and for those who have low vision
* Generate ideas for including and welcoming students with visual impairments into the general education classroom

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* Page 1: Basic Needs and Where to Collect Information
* It is natural for teachers, like Ms. Milton, to be nervous about the…
* Student/Parents or legal guardians/IEP/TVI/O&M specialist [table]
* Link: Accommodations to the Physical Environment: Setting Up a Classroom for Students with Visual Disabilities [IRIS Modules]
* Link: Serving Students with Visual Impairments: The Importance of Collaboration [IRIS Module]

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* Page 2: What It Means to Have a Visual Impairment
* There is a great deal of jargon associated with visual impairments….
* He or she may be able to use vision to perform daily… [bullet points]
* He or she may be able to perform daily tasks using… [bullet points]
* Types of Visual Impairments
	+ Reduced Visual Acuity
		- In a classroom, this might mean that… [bullet points]
	+ Impaired Visual Fields
		- Students who have impaired visual fields… [bullet points]
		- Myth or Fact? [table]
			* Click for answer [drop-down menu]
			* Click for answer [drop-down menu]
			* Click for answer [drop-down menu]

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* Page 3: How Visual Impairments Impact Learning
* Now that Ms. Milton better understands the visual functioning that Evan…
* Concept Development
	+ Children often learn new concepts naturally… [bullet points]
* Impact of Visual Impairment on Concept Development
* Strategies to Support Concept Development
	+ Activity

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* Page 4: The Need for an Expanded Core Curriculum
* Having read Evan’s and Emily’s IEPs, Ms. Milton has learned that they…
* The Expanded Core Curriculum
* Audio: Listen to Phil Hatlen discuss the general education teacher’s role…
* Delivering the Expanded Core Curriculum
	+ Addressing Evan’s Expanded Core Curriculum

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* Page 5: Educational Materials
* Before school began, Ms. Milton spent a lot of time preparing group…
* Audio: Listen as Anne Corn discusses the importance of collaboration…
* Instructional Materials
	+ Visual
	+ Tactile
	+ Auditory
* Assessments and Tests
	+ Setting/Timing/Scheduling/Presentation/Response [table]

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* Page 6: Instructional Methods inside the Classroom
* Now that Ms. Milton has learned about working with the TVI…
* For example*, before the lesson begins*, the teacher should… [bullet points]
* Furthermore, *during the lesson*, the teacher should… [bullet points]
* For Your Information
* Classroom Demonstrations
	+ Below are several ideas that teachers can use to… [bullet points]
	+ Audio-Visual Presentations
		- Keep in Mind
		- Activity
			* Link: Click to see possibilities [drop-down menu]

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* Page 7: Events outside of the Classroom?
* After learning about accommodations for the classroom, Ms. Milton…
* Navigating the School Environment
	+ Until students are fully familiar with the different… [bullet points]
		- Link: Use human guide techniques [drop-down menu]
			* Audio: Brenda Naimy describes how to use…
	+ Preparing for Emergencies
* Travel Beyond the School Environment
	+ When teachers make plans for field trips… [bullet points]
	+ Other accommodations that allow students… [bullet points]
	+ Activity

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* Page 8: Common Courtesy and Effective Communication
* During the process of learning about instructional considerations…
* Communication Tips
	+ Listed below are a few things that teachers should… [bullet points]
* Courtesy Tips
	+ Do/Don’t [table]
	+ Audio: Listen as Vanderbilt Professor Anne Corn describes some…

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* Page 9: The Development of Social Skills
* Ms. Milton recognizes that it is very important that Evan and Emily…
* Ms. Milton can facilitate classroom relationships by doing… [bullet points]
* Skills That Enhance Social Integration [table]

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* Page 10: References & Additional Resources
* Suggested module citation
* References
* Additional Resources
* Page 11: Credits
* Content Experts
* Module Developers
* Module Production Team
* Media
* Expert Interviews

Wrap Up

* Summary of the module
* Video: In this module, you followed along with Ms. Milton as she…
* Audio: Betty Hurst, a first-grade teacher in Nashville, Tennessee…
* Revisit your Initial Thoughts responses
* Link: Instructional Accommodations: Making the Learning Environment Accessible to Students with Visual Disabilities [IRIS Module]
* Link: Accommodations to the Physical Environment: Setting Up a Classroom for Students with Visual Disabilities [IRIS Module]

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Assessment

* Take some time now to answer the following questions.

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You Have Completed This Module

* Give Us Your Feedback
	+ Link: Module Feedback Form
* Professional Development Hours
	+ Link: IRIS PD Options
* Related Resources [link]