



IRISCENTER™



The IRIS Standard

Back-To-School 2020

Welcome to this special 2020 back-to-school edition of our **IRIS Standard**. As we begin an academic year unlike any other, IRIS is all-hands-on-deck with our latest resources, online tools, and information to help you respond to a variety of instructional circumstances and challenges. Read on for all the latest, as well as for a look at a new COVID-19 resource database with fantastic resources from our partner centers.





For Parents: Support Your Child's Learning During COVID

As educators and communities grapple with the reality of the COVID-19 pandemic, it's difficult to know what "school" will look like from day to day, much less week to week. For many parents, the question is a bit more focused: What can I do to best support my child's continued learning, whether it be fully online or some version of in-person and virtual?

Here's the good news: IRIS is here to help. Freshly updated, our free online module [**Parents: Supporting Learning During the COVID-19 Pandemic**](#) is packed with resources and information to address a number of pressing concerns. From a clarification of what is--and what *is not*--a parent's role to notes on promoting young people's social and emotional well-being to special considerations for children with disabilities, this accessible and resource-rich module has something of value for just about every parent.

[View the Module](#)

➤ I have several children and a small living space. How can I create a learning space for each?

➤ How can I minimize the number of distractions in my house?

Above: Our module for parents during COVID-19 doesn't just cover

instructional concerns. It tackles more basic considerations, too, like how to set up a learning space for your child, or ways to reduce distractions during learning time.



For Faculty: Online Course Design and Delivery

Today's vocabulary lesson: *Face-to-face. Online. Hybrid. Synchronous. Asynchronous.*

COVID-19 has changed how we conceptualize classroom instruction. College and university faculty must not only develop courses in response to their institution's current protocols, they must also be ready to pivot quickly should circumstances so dictate.

In response, IRIS worked with Vanderbilt University's [Center for Teaching](#) to develop a new module, [Online Course Design for College and University Faculty](#). Created with content from the CFT's Online Course Development Institute, this resource covers everything from using backward design to develop an online or hybrid course to ongoing assessment and course revisions, and

everything in between.

This resource is the IRIS Center's biggest yet, absolutely packed with tools, links to further information, tips, strategies, and steps. See it for yourself today.

[View the Module](#)

You can do this.



iris.peabody.vanderbilt.edu
or
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MODULE

CHALLENGE

INITIAL THOUGHTS

PERSPECTIVES & RESOURCES

WRAP UP

ASSESSMENT

Challenge

Initial Thoughts

Perspectives & Resources

What do educators need to understand about families of children with disabilities?

Page 1: The Importance of Family Engagement

Page 2: Emotional Reactions to Disability

Page 3: Additional Roles of Families

Page 4: Stressors of Daily Living

How can educators engage these families?

Page 5: Build Positive Relationships

**Family Engagement:
Collaborating with Families of Students with Disabilities**

Perspectives & Resources

Objectives

By completing the entire Perspectives & Resources section and reviewing the accompanying activities, the learner will:

- Understand the importance of family engagement
- Be aware of the actions educators can take to engage families
- Recognize some of the challenges that families who have children with disabilities may face
- Identify practical ways to build positive relationships with parents of children with disabilities and to create opportunities for them to be involved

Standards

This IRIS Module aligns with the following licensure and program standards and topic areas. Click the arrows

Family Matters: Building Better Engagement and Collaboration

In the social and academic development of children, both educators and families play integral and overlapping roles. When families and schools work together to help children grow in these areas, they are more likely to be successful. Simply put, families matter.

Newly revised and updated by IRIS, our module [Family Engagement: Collaborating with Families of Students with Disabilities](#) shines a spotlight on this topic, with an emphasis on steps educators can take to develop and maintain meaningful, positive relationships with the most important people in their students' lives.

[View the Module](#)

Looking for Online PD That's...

Trusted?

Reliable?

Flexible?

Free?

IRIS Has It.

(Click Here To Learn More.)



Back-To-School Tools: A Curated List

At IRIS, we have a *bit* of experience when it comes to which of our resources are most heavily used at the beginning of any given academic year. Consider this your curated list of back-to-school learning modules and case study units from your friends at the IRIS Center.

[Classroom Behavior Management \(Part 1\): Learning the Components of a Comprehensive Behavior Management Plan](#)

[Classroom Management \(Part 2\): Developing Your Own](#)

[Comprehensive Behavior Management Plan](#)

[Effective Room Arrangement: Elementary](#)

[Universal Design for Learning: Creating a Learning Environment that Challenges and Engages All Students](#)

[Differentiated Instruction: Maximizing the Learning of All Students](#)

[IEPs: Developing High-Quality Individualized Education Programs](#)

[IEPs: How Administrators Can Support the Development and Implementation of High-Quality IEPs](#)

[Classroom Diversity: An Introduction to Student Differences](#)

[Cultural and Linguistic Differences: What Teachers Should Know](#)

[Dual Language Learners with Disabilities: Supporting Young Children in the Classroom](#)

[Teaching English Language Learners: Effective Instructional Practices](#)

It hardly bears mentioning that this is just scratching the surface. IRIS makes freely available **more than 1,000 resources** just waiting to be seamlessly embedded into your course instruction. Click any of the links above or visit our [IRIS Resource Locator](#) to explore all that we have to offer.



IRIS Partner Spotlight

IDEAS That Work: COVID-19 Resource Database

When it comes to back-to-school resources, the IRIS Center is far from the only game in town. Today, we're highlighting OSEP's IDEAS That Work Website, with a focus on resources for continued learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Visitors will find resources here with information on technology support, distance learning resources from the Smithsonian, online learning best practices, and telehealth resources. Not enough? How about virtual learning resources for students with disabilities, mathematics strategies to support intensifying interventions, and an online teaching support group, among too much else to list here.

Why not dive in now?

[Visit the Site](#)



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reading. We'll see you next time.



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