Dear THSC Friend,

Lisa, a *Home Educator Express* reader, wrote in and asked if I'd please address ideas for teaching special needs students and give ways to help the day go easier.

While teaching special needs students brings up special challenges, all homeschooled students learn in a unique way. As parent-teachers, we are able to find the best ways to help our children!

Here are some tips that I've found useful in helping most special needs students transition to different activities, manage stress, and excel with less stress.

We have special needs in my house, and these are small, easy-to-implement ideas that I've found to be game-changing!



Visual Schedules

These save the day in our house. Not only to do they keep me from having to answer "What are we doing next?" a million times, but they reduce stress in my students.

They are useful for students with autism, anxiety, and a variety of processing disorders, helping them to feel in control so the day goes better.

There are lots of different types, but for us, having a magnetized one on the fridge (one side for each child) worked the best and was the easiest to implement day-to-day.

Find free printables here to get started.

Are your supplies special needs friendly?

There are lots of tools to help children with fine motor issues, like <u>scissors with springs</u> to help reduce muscle strain.

We love these <u>pencil grips</u> that help to keep fingers aligned in the right places. These are easy to use and cheap!

Read more about useful supplies.



Do you have some figits?

<u>Figits</u> are tools to help reduce anxiety, improve focus and concentration, and redirect stress in kids.

"Movement is a fundamental way to trigger the brain stem... Movement, even fidgeting with the hands, can help by sending signals from the body to the brain to awaken and be alert." (<u>source</u>)

We keep a variety on hand at all times!

We also have a ton of special needs information on HomeEducator.com!

Check out our <u>Special Education Support Toolbox</u> and <u>many other resources</u>.

I hope these ideas help you create an environment of joy in your home and in your homeschool overall.

Thank you for reading,





Jessica Lovett Lead Editor & Writer HomeEducator.com & THSC.org

P.S. Is there anything you'd like to see in upcoming *Home Educator Express* newsletters? Any homeschooling questions you'd like answered? Feel free to reply and let me know!



Call THSC's Special Needs Specialist Today!

Homeschooling a child with special needs is a blessing, but as all homeschooling moms, we have times when we have questions and need a community to help brainstorm with

and gain encouragement from.

That is why, here at THSC, we offer our members coaching calls with **THSC's Special Needs Specialist**.

Join THSC to schedule a coaching call today and take advantage of this great benefit!

Let us help your homeschooling be the best it can be!

Join THSC!

5 Keys to Choosing a Math Curriculum

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- 1. *Flexibility* Give your kids the opportunity to race ahead if they're able, or fix up gaps from previous years.
- 2. *Price* Make sure the program covers ALL the grade levels you need without blowing the budget.

4. Test drive it - Can you try for free to make sure lesson quality is absolutely top notch?

5. *Guarantee* - Does it offer a guarantee if the program is not what you expected or if it doesn't fit with your student's style of learning?

CTCMath takes care of each of these 5 keys and helps you customize the way your students learn - going to different grade levels as needed.

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