

How Parents Can Help Their Child Learn through Universal Design for Learning

- Figure out how your child likes to learn. Are they a visual learner? Kinesthetic? Auditory? A combination or multiple types of learning styles? They can take a learning style quiz here: <http://www.educationplanner.org/students/self-assessments/learning-styles-quiz.shtml>
<http://www.scholastic.com/parents/resources/quiz/tools/learning-personalities-quiz-8-10>
- Talk to your student about any barriers they frequently come across while learning. Is there something that is consistently challenging about the way they learn?
- Find out what interests your child so they stay engaged in their learning.

Then, use this knowledge to help your child learn the way that is best for THEM!

- Provide different kinds of choices when completing projects and homework.
For example, allow students to draw pictures to accompany writing projects or use assistive technologies or software programs to help with writing such as NaturallySpeaking or Powerpoint.
- Allow options for researching and gathering information.
For example, use books, videos, audio files, pictures, etc and a choice of ways to take notes (graphic organizer, typing, writing on notebook paper, using a software program).
- Give choices in the level of difficulty of homework and books.
For example, allow students to challenge themselves through online math and reading games. Have students participate in online literature circles with classmates.
- Allow and have manipulatives available to aid in understanding math concepts.
For example, use real coins or money to solve money problems. Use blocks to help solve standard operation problems. Students can visit National Library of Virtual Manipulatives for online manipulatives. <http://nlvm.usu.edu/>
- When coaching on homework, relate the topic of study back to something that interests them.
For example, have students read books that are of an interesting topic to them. Relate math problems back to something in relevant their lives.