

Supporting Special Education Needs During School Closure

How can I support my child's learning over the summer?



What is LEXIA and how might my child benefit from it over the summer?

All students from Kindergarten to Grade 12 have access to a FREE LEXIA license until the **end of July, 2020**. LEXIA is an online learning tool that supports students' reading development. Students complete LEXIA lessons at their level on a daily basis for 30 minutes (recommended). LEXIA monitors their success and moves them through lessons to develop their reading skills (sounding out words, comprehension). If your child does not have a LEXIA license and you would like them to have one set up, please contact our child's classroom teacher or the school Special Education Teacher before June 26 2020.

If you have children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, you might be interested in visiting
<https://www.chs.ca/>

Families can access topics such as:

- Accessibility Services
- Counselling Services
- Education Programs
- Hearing Healthcare
- Listening Accessories (available for purchase)



Alternative Learning Menu 2				
Instructions: Choose from the options below. Enjoy as many or as few as you have time for.				
Functional Academics	Leisure Skills	Communication /Language Skills	Life Skills	Motor Skills
Identify toys by size (big/small) using toys with significant size difference. Place them inside hula hoops or laundry baskets verbally labelling them each time. (Big. Put it in big.)	Play Simon Says. Have your child follow your directions (eg. Touch toes, reach up high).	Use the "outside my window" communication board to communicate what they see outside.	While doing laundry leave socks aside for your child to sort. You can sort by colour, size or match the pairs.	Create a pasta necklace using pasta and string or a pipe cleaner. This will help develop the pincer grip and strengthen hand muscles through threading.

Alternative Learning Menus will remain posted on the board website if there are activities that you and your child did not get to yet. They can be found at www.ucdsb.on.ca—UCDSB Learn At Home.

Suggestions from our System Special Education Team

- * Continue to use visual schedules and timers when following daily routines and schedules
- ♦ <https://www.autismlittlelearners.com/2020/06/getting-haircut-during-covid-19-story.html> for social stories and visuals—this one is about getting a haircut!
- ♦ <https://www.pbisworld.com/tier-2/social-stories/>
- ♦ Life At Home During COVID 19: <https://autismawarenesscentre.com/shop/autism/life-at-home-during-covid-19-e-book/>
- ♦ Ensure access to books and schedule reading time each day. Start a series and set a reading goal for each day! Celebrate the completion of a book
- ♦ Have your child listen to an audio book while following along in the actual book



If you have any questions about special education needs and school start-up in September, please contact your child's school Principal.