

Trenance Learning Academy

Strategies for supporting pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities in Geography lessons

Individual Need	Here's how we help everyone learn
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	Due to its hands-on nature, Geography is an excellent subject for children with ADHD as it is an area they can excel within. Ensure all resources are available for the children to explore prior to the lesson and, if support is needed to allow access to materials e.g. atlases, ensure the teacher or a TA is available. During fieldwork, give clear rules to follow for safety and focus for the lesson. Accept that being outside is exciting but remain firm that the learning objective is the focus. Allow time-out within the area of learning (if not learning in classroom e.g. fieldwork) where the child can calm down if needed - agree this space with the child as required. There are lots of opportunities within Geography for group work - depending on the child, ensure they have a 'role' within the group and plan additional resources in case a pupil needs to work independently (regardless of needs prior to the lesson, the provision of individual learning within a planned group session should also be considered in case any child within the class is struggling).
Anxiety	 ✓ Most strategies for helping those with anxiety will be the same within Geography - knowing the child will help, of course, and ensuring pre-teach is used where helpful. ✓ Reassurance, especially for difficult concepts e.g. lines of latitude, longitude etc. and explaining several times in different ways e.g. atlas, map, globe. ✓ Time out or a short break if required.
Autism Spectrum Disorder	 ✓ Geography lessons and fieldwork can be overwhelming for some children due to the changing nature of lessons - allow children time and space if they are overwhelmed. ✓ Some children may have definite ideas based on their prior (incorrectly learned) knowledge which may need to be 'untaught', e.g. which countries are in which continents, pyramids were in Ancient Rome etc be consistent when correcting ideas and have 'proof' e.g. atlas, globe, visual as well as written information sheets. Continue to go over these incorrect ideas with the new facts. ✓ Be able to show understanding in a range of ways including visual as well as written information - for extended writing, teacher or 'TA support may be required.
Dyscalculia	 ✓ Physical resources, properly demonstrated, to be used. ✓ Lots of practise looking from whole-world maps to sections - use physical props to help, e.g. 'picture frame'- draw a frame around an area and let the children explore the shapes of the land and sea to help build links. ✓ Support with quantitative data e.g. graphs, charts etc, visual aids and word-mats to help with vocabulary.
Dyslexia	As well as the best practise for Dyslexic pupils e.g. font size and type, in Geography, the following will be helpful: Visual aids and word mats to help with vocabulary.



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	Reading text-heavy atlas pages or summarising within handouts if required.
Dyspraxia	✓ A range of showing understanding - visual, written, drawing, graphs etc.
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	 Support with quantitative data e.g. graphs, charts - provide scaffolded graphs for data to be added to.
	✓ Demonstrate any equipment to be used for Geography lessons or fieldwork
Hearing Impairment	✓ Pre-teach if required.
	✓ Demonstrate use of equipment.
	✓ Visual aids if required.
	✓ When completing fieldwork, agree a way of ensuring all children know
	when/where to return to if on school site - if the cue is audio, e.g. whistle,
	ensure partner/group will give visual cues - you will want to encourage
	independent fieldwork rather than providing TA support where it is not needed.
	Finance instructions are understood before the lesson begins and any additional
	instructions are provided in writing if required.
	✓ Visual aids and word mats to help with vocabulary.
	✓ Allowances and provision needed when completing fieldwork away from school
Toileting Issues	building/trips.
	✓ Allow rest time if needed
	✓ Visual aids and word mats to help with vocabulary.
	✓ Demonstrate how to use equipment each time it is used for consistency and
	processing.
	✓ Break down tasks into manageable chunks and demonstrate each step as
Cognition and Learning	required.
Challenges	✓ Writing support for extended writing including examples of text and scaffolded
Chahenges	frame.
	✓ Step by step instructions.
	✓ Group and partner work within fieldwork to help stay on task and provide peer
	support.
Speech, Language & Communication Needs	✓ Visual aids and word mats to help with vocabulary.
	Demonstrate how to use equipment each time it is used for consistency and
	processing
	✓ Break down tasks into manageable chunks and demonstrate each step as
	required.
	✓ Writing support for extended writing including examples of text and scaffolded
	frame.
	✓ Step by step instructions with understandable vocabulary.
	Group and partner work within fieldwork to help stay on task and provide peer
	support.
Tourette Syndrome	✓ Be aware of tics when using globes – position them in middle of desk before use
of and beautiful and a second	✓ Positive reinforcement and positive atmosphere within lessons.
	✓ Fieldwork and experiential Geography may involve discussions or trigger
Experienced Trauma	memories of trauma - knowing your children in advance is very important and
	allowing time, space and the ability to discuss (or not to share) is very



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	important. Similar to Jigsaw, discussion is welcome and sharing within class with
	boundaries and rules for not sharing other people's stories without permission
1.4	to allow children to feel comfortable to chat knowing that their experiences will
	not be spread outside the classroom.
Visual Impairment	✓ Enlarge maps and show them on the large screen.
	✓ Give the children time and opportunity to explore through touch, e.g. outlines of
	maps, textures to evoke discussion etc.

