

LESSON IDEAS FOR STUDENTS WITH HIGH SUPPORT NEEDS

By Heather from A Love for Special Learning

Make it visual

- Take attendance using hand size laminated pictures of students/staff on a felt board (velcro on back of pictures)
- Play YouTube kaladiscscope videos
- Bloom app to make sounds and digital bubbles
- Print off 5" x 7" pictures of family or preferred celebrities, athletes, peers, objects, or places to flip through in a photo album
- Visuals to review the schedule for the day
- Online board games during mat table or stander

Make it transferable (to home)

- Load/Unload dishwasher, put away plates, cups, bowls, silverware
- Take dirty towels/clothes/etc to laundry washing machine (put-in/take-out activity)
- Pour measuring up of rice into bowls (put-in activity similar to feeding family pets)
- Water plants or garden

Make it auditory

- Audiobooks on high interest topics
- Read local news or high interest articles out loud
- Create music using [Incredibox.com](https://www.incredibox.com)
- [Piano mat](#)
- Building staff 'hellos' using communication device, let student choose someone special to see

Make it Tactile

- Search and find bins (create new ones each season or month)
- Water play in a sink or water table using cups, squirting toys, and waterfall toys
- Pour paper recycling into larger bins and take to recycling center (put-in/take-out activity)
- Bubble machine
- [Adaptive bike](#)
- Foot bath (pedicure)
- Water beads
- [Swing](#)
- Obstacle course (trampoline, crawl through tube, hurdles)
- Textured [floor mats](#) or bubble packing material
- [Zipper boards](#)

Make it smell

- Use airpopper and switch to make popcorn and melt butter in microwave
- Use fruit juice/crusher to make lemonade or orange juice
- Let a student choose an essential oil scent for the diffuser
- Use switch and fresh fruit for smoothies or to mix cupcake/brownie mix

Recreational therapies

- Music
- Art
- Movement/Dance
- Swimming
- Pet
- Horseback riding