

Resources for Parents of Learners with Special Needs

This resource is designed for families with learners with special needs, including those with significant cognitive disabilities, while schools are closed due to COVID-19.



Support Learning and Engagement While at Home

[Boardmaker:](#) Free downloadable materials to support communication and the development of activities related to a variety of topics.

[Math Aids:](#) Resources that allow parents and educators to make an unlimited number of printable math worksheets that can be customized to each student and grade level.

[Bookshare:](#) People with dyslexia, blindness, cerebral palsy, and other reading barriers can access online digital books that are customized to meet learning style and need. Electronic books are available in audio, audio + highlighted text, braille, large font, and other formats using most devices including smartphones, tablets, Chromebooks, computers, and assistive technology devices.

[ReadWorks:](#) Reading comprehension support and instruction for English learners, special education students, and struggling readers, as well as remote learning resources and tools.

[Tips for Families in Supporting Their Children with Disabilities in Virtual Formats:](#) Suggestions to create a comfortable and distraction-free learning space and schedule to promote distance learning and social engagement.

[A Parent's Guide to Virtual Learning: 4 Actions to Improve Your Child's Experience with Online Learning:](#) Practical tips to enhance student/teacher communication, learner engagement, and structure for distance learning.

[At-Home Resources for Families:](#) Online stories and virtual activities across topics such as literacy, science, and art.

[Supporting Parents/Caregivers of Students with High Needs During the COVID-19 Pandemic:](#) Developed by the Connecticut State Department of Education, the RESC Alliance, the Connecticut Parent Advocacy Center (CPAC), and the Connecticut Association of Private Special Education Facilities (CAPSEF), this guide provides parents with tools and resources to engage your child/young adult in continued educational opportunities during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Visit the [Connecticut State Department of Education Website](#) and [COVID-19 Resources for Families and Educators](#) for access to updated resources, tools, and recorded webinars.

Compiled by the Connecticut State Department of Education, Performance Office, April 2020. The inclusion of resources on this page does NOT constitute an endorsement or recommendation of any specific online material, program, or by any person who has contributed. These resources are provided solely to support continued support to families during school closures due to the COVID-19 outbreak.