





# Early Intervention & Educational Therapy

#### Presented by:

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### Getting to Know Each Other



- Who are you?
- With what school are you associated, and what is your role there?
- What QUESTION are you hoping to have answered today?
- No question-no problem: Take a minute to reflect on what school was like for you growing up.

## Why Join this

- Identify the needs of your youngest students before they experience academic failure.
  - > Build a program that serves all learners.
  - Discover the difference between educational therapy and tutoring
  - ➤ Help your students understand their own learning challenges, advocate for themselves, and close their performance gaps.



# Early Intervention

- Types of Tiered Intervention
- Who is a candidate?
- Distinctives of Early Intervention



# Components of Early Intervention

- Comprehension
- Fluency
- Vocabulary
- Phonemic Awareness
- Phonics



# Phonemic Awareness

Sound segmentation and manipulation; an auditory task with kinesthetic and visual elements



### **Phonics**





# E.I. Student Success Story - Sophia!

#### → Beginning

Screening showed extreme deficits in phonological awareness, orthographic mapping, vocabulary (ESL student) and phonemic manipulation. Initial DIBELS benchmark score in 33rd percentile

#### → Ending (after 7 months of E.I.)

Dibels composite scores in 77th percentile (national) and scoring at or above goals in all assessed areas

### Pop Quiz!

Winston Churchill

Alexander Graham Bell

Jay Leno

Steven Spielberg

Agatha Christie

Daniel Radcliffe

Henry Ford

Walt Disney

Jennifer Aniston

Steve Jobs

Leonardo da Vinci

Cher

Thomas Edison

Ryan Gosling

Albert Einstein

Chris Rock

Amanda Gorman



#### **Next Steps After EI:**

- If a student still struggles with learning challenges after EI, they are referred to our Supplemental Services Department.
- Our department may schedule classroom observations.
- Discuss strategies used by the teacher and make suggestions of new strategies or use of therapeutic tools in the classroom.
- We'll evaluate all grade-wide benchmark testing results.
- Perform new testing within our department, specifically the Woodcock-Johnson IV Test of Academic Achievement.
- Special Education Director my initiate a referral to school district for formal cognitive/behavioral testing.

# How Common are Learning Challenges?

Approximately 15% of individuals in the U.S. have some form of diagnosed learning disability.

50 million U.S. children in school

7.5 million students with learning disabilities



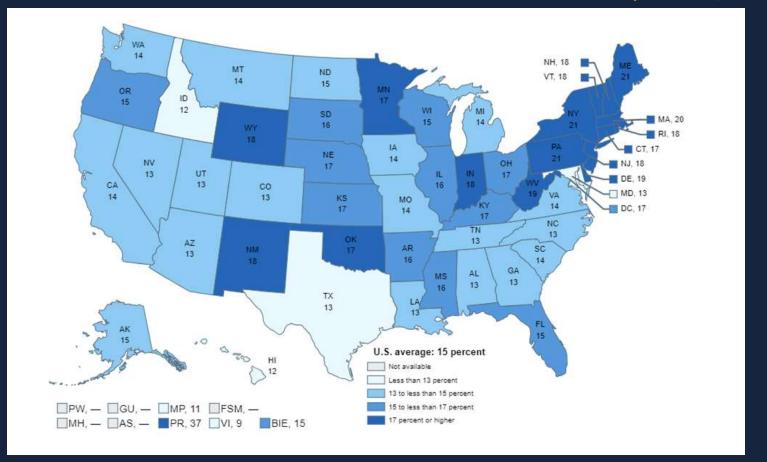
#### What are Learning Disabilities?

Learning disabilities are disorders that impede one's ability to:

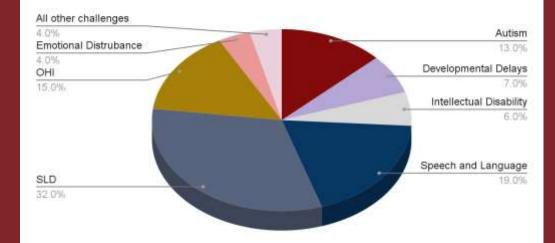
- Understand or use spoken or written language
- Do mathematical calculations
- Coordinate movements
- Direct attention

Source: NIH

### Students Served Under IDEA in 2022/2023



#### Type of Learning Disability



Speech and Language Impairments 19%

Other Health Impairment 15%

Autism Spectrum

Disorder

13%

Specific Learning Disability 32%

#### The National Institute of Learning Development (NILD)

- 1. **NILD's Mission:** To build the competence and confidence of those who struggle to learn by training educators and developing programs.
- 2. NILD Philosophy: Believing that all students can learn and that the brain is open to change at all levels of development. This change can come about by providing a direct and focused educational intervention for cognitive systems that are weak and vulnerable.
- **3. NILD's Method:** Individualized or small group interventions, two to four times a week to develop core academic skills and higher order processing.
- **4. NILD's Tools:** A complete psycho-educational battery of tests identifies a student's cognitive strengths and patterns of weaknesses. Based upon initial and annual assessments, an individualized program is developed for each student from a variety of different techniques designed to target academic challenges and processing deficits.



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#### What is NILD Educational Therapy?

Our practitioners are licensed and certified through NILD, which is endorsed by the International Dyslexia Association.

NILD has identified four key components to every student's learning: cognition, perception, academics and emotions.

NILD created evidence-based, multisensory techniques, that educational therapists can use to strengthen the learning processes in children. Teaching students how to think, not what to think. Making them an independent learner in any environment.



#### The Five Core Techniques:

- 1. Gray Matter
- 2. Rhythmic Writing
- 3. Dictation and Copy
- 4. Buzzer
- 5. Math Block



# **Student Success Story Educational Therapy**

#### → Fourth Grader

Initial academic screening scores showed a grade level equivalence of two full academic years behind his peers in 6 of 9 subtests. Broad Academic Achievement score of 27%. By our end of year testing evaluation, this student had raised his Broad Academic Achievement score to 54%. His pacing and competency in the classroom matched that of his peers going into the fifth grade.

# Why Should Classical Schools Offer Intervention?

- > Intentionality to reach all learners
- Builds seamlessly into the Classical model
- Fosters student independence, personal development and perseverance.

# What people are saying about EI/ET

My son is confident and equipped for 1st grade! Thank you!

Wendy, mother of Rhett (E.I student)

The support Henry receives is life changing with eternal benefits!

John, father of Henry (E.T. student)

We struggled with cost but have found the advantages to be priceless.

Jen, mother of Luna (E.I. student)

#### Provider Qualifications:

#### Early Intervention:

- Bachelor's Degree in teaching or related field.
- Experience with your school literacy program.

#### Educational Therapy:

- Bachelor's Degree in teaching or related field.
- NILD Level I, II and III Certification and ongoing yearly licensure.
- Academic testing training or experience.
- Annual ongoing training hours for practitioners.



### **Next Steps?**

- PRAY!
- Talk with your administrators
  - School needs/demographics
  - Cost for each level of intervention
- Consider other ways to bring intervention to your schools
  - NILD Webinars and/or In-Service Workshops
  - Tier 1 Intervention Services
  - Bring more differentiated learning into the classroom setting
  - Make sure your school is doing benchmark testing
- Just Do It!!! Start small and build!





#### Follow-up Contact Info:

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