

# Exceptional Children Information for Parents

November 4, 2020



Public Schools of North Carolina  
State Board of Education  
Department of Public Instruction

<https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov>

## Speech and Language Therapy Ideas for Home

Listed below are many activities families can do at home to improve speech and language skills for any child. These are not endorsed by the Exceptional Children Division but offered as a resource for those that are interested.

1. SpeechPathologyMastersPrograms.com has put together a webpage with [Tips for Speech Therapy at Home for Children with Autism](#).
2. Speech and Language Pathologists from the Needham Public School System in Massachusetts created a [list of ideas](#) to enrich a child's language while at home. Activities include reading, playing games, apps, and worksheets. Although this article is from Massachusetts, the information presented is relevant for North Carolina children.
3. [Speaking of Speech.com](#) provides free materials to use when doing therapy sessions at home. Some examples include communication boards, I Spy game, fill-in-the-blank worksheets, and many more.
4. Although summer break is over, there is also a [Summer Speech Challenge](#) that offers weekly challenges that focus on a different speech skill each week.
5. Speech and Language Kids.com provides many free [themed activities](#) to do while at home. They also provide many [speech therapy games](#) to play so it doesn't "feel like learning."
6. Speech and Language at Home.com offers [free calendars](#) for download with a speech activity for each day in addition to other printable material for parents.

## Public Comments for Economic and Personal Finance for the Extended Content Standards

The North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Exceptional Children Division, convened stakeholder groups to create and review proposed extended standards for Economic and Personal Finance for students with significant cognitive disabilities. The Extended Standards for Economic and Personal Finance in Social Studies are open for public comment. The Draft Extended Standards for Economic and Personal Finance can be found on the [NCDPI Exceptional Children's webpage](#). Questions and comments may be submitted to [ecpubliccomments@dpi.nc.gov](mailto:ecpubliccomments@dpi.nc.gov)

## Important Links

- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- [U.S. Department of Education](#)
- [N.C. Department of Health & Human Services](#)
  - [Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit \(K-12\)](#)
- [N.C. Department of Public Instruction](#)
  - [Lighting Our Way Forward \(Summary\)](#)
- [No Kid Hungry](#)
- [NCDPI-COVID-19 Responses & Resources](#)

## Who can I talk to if I have questions about my child's special education services?

Knowing who to talk to when you have questions, concerns or disagreement about your child's special education services can be difficult. It is helpful to start at the school level, as school staff know your child personally. If your questions are not answered or do not resolve your concerns and disagreement at the school level, you may want to consider the following steps:

- Request an IEP meeting;
- Contact your school district's or charter school's EC Director;
- Contact one of the following parent assistance agencies, including:
  - Exceptional Children's Assistance Center (ECAC): <https://www.ecac-parentcenter.org>
  - Disability Rights North Carolina: <https://disabilityrightsncc.org>
  - The Arc of North Carolina (ARC): <https://www.arcnc.org>
- Consider one of the NC Department of Public Instruction (DPI) Dispute Resolution Processes: <https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/parent-resources/dispute-resolution>

Check out previous newsletters for other resources.

<https://ec.ncpublicschools.gov/parent-resources/parent-newsletter-2020>

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