

A Parent Handbook
for the
Discovery Program
Cypress Christian School

Admission into the CCS Discovery Program

Students interested in the Discovery Program must have completed an application for admission to Cypress Christian School (CCS) before initiating the application to the Discovery Program.

Discovery Program applicants must complete the application and submit results from recent I.Q. testing, plus any results from other recently administered educational diagnostic testing. Discovery applicants will then meet with the Learning Center Director to determine the student's eligibility for admission to the CCS Discovery Program. Eligibility to the Discovery Program does not guarantee admission to CCS. All other requirements for admission to CCS must be completed through the CCS Admissions Office.

Additional fees are required for the Discovery Program in addition to the regular CCS classroom tuition.

Discovery Support Services

- Organized parent/teacher conferences
- Learning Center access (may require a fee)
- Parent Group Meetings
- For high school students: SAT/ACT application assistance for nonstandard testing arrangement and College advisory board network assistance

The goal of the NILD/Discovery Program is to equip students to become dependent upon God, independent from Discovery services, and successful in the classroom and life.

For more information to www.nild.org

NILD/Discovery Program

Cypress Christian School

The NILD/Discovery Program was piloted in 1974 in Norfolk, Virginia, to meet the unique needs of students who are average to above average intelligence, but have difficulty in certain areas of classroom instruction. Cypress Christian School strives to create a successful learning environment for each of its students and believe that the Discovery Program makes it possible for qualifying students to achieve success in the classroom. Students, parents, and school administrators in over 1,000 Christian school settings throughout the United States and abroad realize the success of the NILD/Discovery Program.

The NILD/Discovery program works with students that have difficulty in one or more of the following areas: reading, mathematics, spelling, listening, writing, speaking, or reasoning skills. The program is non-tutorial. Special activities encourage students to take ownership of the learning process, thus creating more active and efficient participation in the classroom. Techniques stimulate deficiencies in areas of perception and cognition and offer the added benefit of strategies and skills that can be employed during their school years, college and into professional careers.

Discovery Therapists are certified teachers who receive specialized, on-going graduate level training through the National Institute for Learning Development (NILD). Regular collaboration with the classroom teacher is encouraged in order to develop an improved educational program for each student. Students enrolled in the *Discovery Program* at Cypress Christian School received specialized and individualized instruction for two 80-minute sessions each week. The average length of time a student remains in the program is approximately three years to five years.

Parental involvement at home is essential for each student's success. Cypress Christian School believes that parental involvement is paramount to the point that failure on the part of the parent to fully support the program's additional home requirements could jeopardize the student's enrollment in the *Discovery Program* at Cypress Christian School

IMPORTANT SUGGESTIONS FOR NILD Educational Therapy® HOMEWORK

Students in NILD Educational Therapy® are expected to perform homework while they are in the program. The two activities, which are done daily or on days when the student is not in therapy, are **Rhythmic Writing** and the *Blue Book*. In addition to these two will be short assignments, which will be noted on the Homework sheet. Usually the homework assigned has been accomplished during the student's session.

Generally, with the student's deficits in mind, homework will be given in the five core techniques of the NILD program. Those techniques are Rhythmic Writing, *Blue Book*, Buzzer word, Math, and Dictation and Copy using the book *Getting the Main Idea*. There may also be other homework assigned, noted in the special instruction area in the Homework booklet.

It is **IMPERATIVE** that a parent monitor **ALL** homework sessions since many different types of directions are given. However, **parents should not correct the work.**

Another **MUST** in strengthening the student's ability to successfully carry through his homework assignments will be for the parent to come and observe as many therapy sessions as possible. The suggested number of observations is once monthly (after the initial six sessions for training in Rhythmic Writing). This will give the parent an idea of what the therapist is trying to accomplish. It will also instruct the parent on ways to better help the student during his homework time.

These suggestions will be helpful as the student's parents, teachers, and therapist all work together to strengthen the perceptual areas of learning for these special students.

The NILD/Discovery Program improves:

1. Eye-hand coordination
2. Visual-motor skills
3. Directionality/Laterality
4. Spatial Perception
5. Handwriting
6. Mental Math Calculation
7. Short and Long-term Memory
8. Sequencing Ability
9. Thinking Skills
10. Organizational Skills
11. Auditory Skills
12. Attention Span

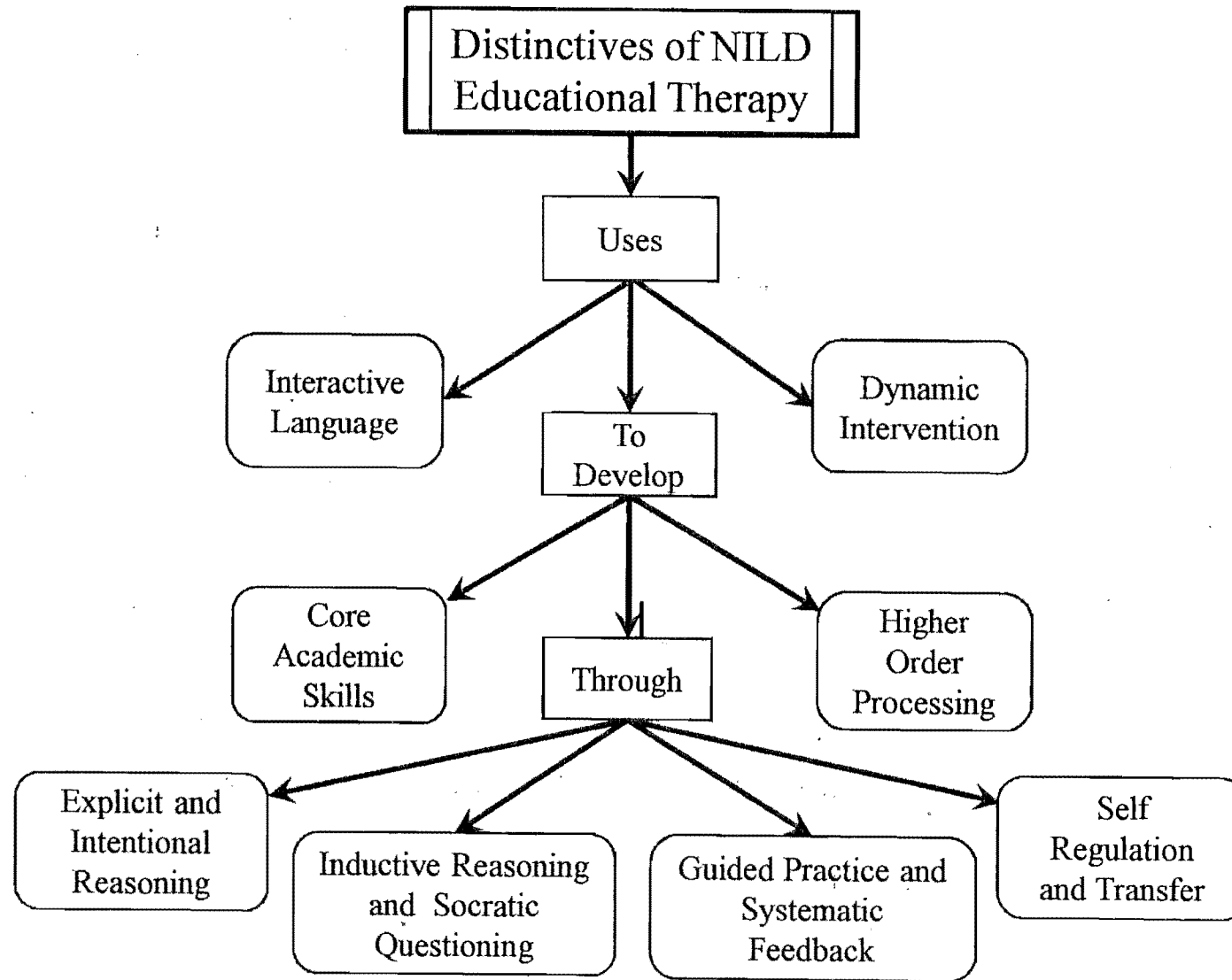
EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES FOR EACH TECHNIQUE

<u>TECHNIQUE</u>	<u>ANNUAL GOALS/OBJECTIVES</u>
Above Level Reading	to apply decoding skills (Blue Book patterns, spelling rules, syllabication) above student's reading level to develop structural analysis skills
Adjacent Forms	to improve reasoning and spatial judgment to improve understanding of directional terminology to develop precise language to develop the skill of estimation to develop visual transfer
Analogies	to develop problem-solving strategies and flexible thinking to develop precision in expressive language to develop comprehension skills through associative thinking and reasoning to develop vocabulary skills
Auditory Memory Training Exercises	to develop visual imagery to increase auditory attention to improve short-term auditory sequential memory to develop strategic thinking
Blue Book	to improve decoding skills (reading) to improve encoding skills (spelling) to improve long-term visual sequential memory to promote phonemic awareness to improve long-term auditory sequential memory to improve ability to apply spelling generalizations
Blue Book Dictation Exercises	to strengthen auditory processing to provide reinforcement and application of the Blue Book to develop long-term visual memory
Body Image	to improve visual perception of position of space to improve visual perception of part-to-whole to improve perception of mirror directions to reinforce laterality to improve directionality

Buzzer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to strengthen visual imagery to improve auditory sequential skills to improve auditory short-term memory to improve vocabulary skills to improve word analysis skills
Design Tiles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve ability to visualize a whole from the parts to develop skills of analysis and synthesis to develop problem-solving strategies and verbalization
Dictation And Copy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve near-point copying to develop proofreading skills to develop long-term visual memory to improve auditory memory to develop understanding of paragraph structure to improve reading comprehension and language processing to encourage application and transfer of spelling rules
Forms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve visual perception of size and shape to improve visual-motor coordination to improve visual figure-ground perception to improve visual recall skills to improve expressive language and vocabulary
Grammar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve ability to identify patterns that exist in language to develop understanding of parts of speech and their function within a sentence to develop logical reasoning and flexibility in thinking to improve flexibility in written language
Let's Read	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve decoding skills (reading) to improve visual discrimination and sequence to recognize phonological patterns in words to promote phonemic and phonological awareness to improve reading inflection, rate and rhythm to develop vocabulary
Listen My Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to increase auditory attention to improve short-term auditory sequential memory to improve language processing

Map Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve long-term visual memory to improve directionality (N,S,E,W)
Math Block	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve formation and retention of visual image to improve auditory attention and listening skills to internalize basic math facts to develop mathematical vocabulary and concepts to develop problem solving ability to improve mathematical reasoning and logical thinking to improve comprehension and application of mathematical language to improve the ability to articulate the steps of a problem-solving process to improve language processing
Memory Cards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to enhance visual short-term and sequential memory to develop memorization and study strategies to expand vocabulary to reinforce integration of Blue Book patterns
Moveable Alphabet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve visual discrimination and sequencing to improve phonemic awareness (recognition of individual sounds) to improve phonological awareness (recognition of sound patterns) to improve phonics (sound/symbol association) to develop syllabication and structural analysis skills to increase ability to apply spelling generalizations
Oral Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to develop comprehension skills to provide vocabulary development to give practice using decoding skills to encourage reading for both information and pleasure
Proverbs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to develop an understanding of figurative language to develop abstract and inferential thinking to develop the ability to apply general principles to life situations to develop comprehension and vocabulary skills

Pythagoras Puzzles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve long term visual memory to improve spatial orientation to improve problem-solving skills to improve knowledge of geometric forms (names and characteristics)
Reading and Thinking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to increase auditory attention to stimulate language processing to improve short-term auditory memory to improve inferential thinking
Rhythmic Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve visual-motor integration to develop the ability to do intermodal tasks to develop sensory integration to improve directionality to develop attention to develop working memory
Square Puzzles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve visual memory to improve spatial orientation to improve problem-solving skills to improve expressive language skills to develop planning strategies and inhibit impulsivity
Tangrams	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to strengthen visual-spatial skills to develop analysis and synthesis skills to improve intentionality in planning to increase understanding of geometry and proportions
Thimbles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to improve finger gnosis (knowledge of fingers) to improve perception of individual fingers through the use of tactile stimuli to improve laterality



**Classroom Support Services provided by
The CCS Learning Center Programs**

(Individual accommodations are dependent upon individual testing results)

- Extra time on tests and/or quizzes
- Quiet testing environment
- Preferential seating
- Shared lecture notes/note-taking assistance
- Oral response for tests and/or adjusting length of tests
- Organizational help
- Additional textbooks for home (when available)
- Re-testing
- No penalty for spelling errors
- Provision of a reader for tests
- Provision of a scribe for tests
- Reduced homework assignments as needed