

PARALLEL ACTIVITIES

Types Of Classroom Contributions

This may occur for ...

quick 5 min. activity

The student may be in the classroom for a short time for lessons that are not motivating or allow his/her to practice her skills.

(e.g., a reminder before going home; a brainteaser for a math topic; or a joke or riddle before recess)

small groups ...

The student can participate in a small group activity (e.g., using a switch to run a spinner providing numbers for peers to practice their math facts).

This can occur for...

- students with learning needs who require extra practice on facts
- students who are gifted and after completing their work, could benefit from a challenge activity

class at large ...

During these times, the student can contribute to a large group activity (e.g., the student may give the spelling words and sentences for a pre-test to the entire class, using a voice output device)


Teachers need to plan ahead of time to set up these kinds of activities with the assistant. Once these routines are in place, the need for planning may be reduced.

PARALLEL ACTIVITY SAMPLES

Students can be involved within age appropriate activities in a variety of ways and for different lengths of time. Where classrooms have more direct instruction and individual seat work, activities can involve the entire school as well as the student's own age appropriate class. The following are some examples of different involvement.

5 Minute Classroom Activity (In & Out)

The Student's Parallel Activity	Class Activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • give an announcement from the teacher to the class at the start of the day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listening for announcement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • give a reminder about homework before going home 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • listening for homework reminder
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • give a joke or riddle about a theme being studied 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • figuring out the riddle for the work period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • give a math brain teaser to the class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • class has to figure out the answer during the math period
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • give the answer to a brain teaser about a topic being researched by the class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • peers check to see if their answer matches that given by The student


<p>Students can give short announcements to the class for the teacher...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at the end of the day (i.e., an assignment to complete and hand in tomorrow) • before recess (i.e., wearing coats outside as it is very cold) • first thing in the morning(i.e., announcements for the school which may usually read by the teacher) • throughout an activity (i.e., reminders to work quietly on a self-directed project) 	
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Working In Small Pull-Out Groups

The student's Parallel Activity	Class Activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • play music for a small group that parallels with the theme of what they are 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • art activity reward for those who finish work early

doing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • play sound effects that parallel with what the class is studying (e.g., whales, Indian chants, machines making noises) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • those 2-3 students who need extra help on research project for science or socials
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use switch with spinner to give numbers to math drills or questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • math drills in resource room
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use step by step communicator with directions for the experiment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • science experiment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use the switch and Powerlink to run a fan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • class is working on activities in a hot room or after gym time

Example Of A Student Working In Small Pull-Out Group

	<p>Peers can practice on their own skills with in small groups using games.</p> <p>Here our student is using an All-Turn-It Spinner, by AbleNet in place of a dice to provide peers in this small working group with the numbers.</p>
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The student Contributing to the entire Class

The student's Activity	Class Activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • give spelling test to peers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • spelling
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide questions for the unit on "bats" using the step by step communicator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • science - bats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • recorded key information for upcoming test with step by step communicator for information on socials 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • socials
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use the switch to turn on tape for class to sing along 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • music - singing songs to tape
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use switch and Powerlink to play music for a dance class in gym 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • dance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use switch and spinner to give numbers to part of the questions being demonstrated on the board for class 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • group math lesson
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use switch & spinner 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • class game for reward on Thursdays

Classroom teachers can involve students using switches, in many activities with the entire class as is shown here ...

- as a warm up activity
- to practice addition, subtraction, multiplication skills, etc.
- to reinforce a particular skill which has been taught the previous day
- as a reward for on-task behaviour for the entire group!

The student is using an All-Turn-It Spinner to select the numbers for the teacher.

