



Handy Handouts®

Free, educational handouts for teachers and parents*

Number 289



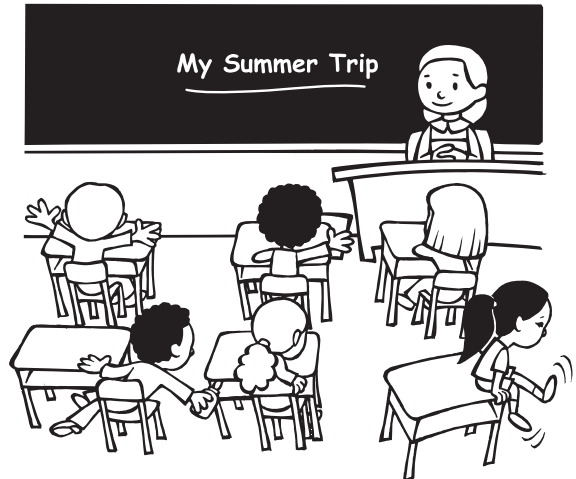
Preferential Seating in the Classroom

by Rynette R. Kjesbo, M.S., CCC-SLP

What Is Preferential Seating?

Some students have disabilities that affect their abilities to see, hear, pay attention to, or participate in activities in the same ways as their peers who do not have disabilities. As a result, some students with disabilities are eligible to receive accommodations such as preferential seating. *Accommodations* are *adjustments* to the way educational services are delivered to students with disabilities.

Preferential seating means that a student's seat is placed in a location that is *most beneficial* for his/her learning in the classroom. For example, if a student is very distractible, his/her seat might be placed away from doors or windows which tend to have more distracting activity. If the student has a visual impairment, his/her seat might be placed closer to the front of the room so that the student can more easily perceive the teacher and visual aids used for instruction (bulletin boards, posters, etc.). A student with a hearing impairment might need a seat closer to the teacher in order to better hear the teacher's voice. As well, during some activities, such as taking a test, a student who needs preferential seating might take the test (or perform the activity) in another room, separate from his/her peers and the distractions of the classroom.



It is important to note that not each child with a disability needs preferential seating. However, if you feel that your child's disability keeps him/her from maximizing learning in the classroom, and you feel he/she would benefit from preferential seating, talk to your child's teacher or IEP (Individualized Education Program) Team.

For more Handy Handouts®, go to www.handyhandouts.com.

Helpful Products

The list of Super Duper® products below may be helpful when working with children who have special needs. Visit www.superduperinc.com and type in the item name or number in our search engine. Click the links below to see the product description.

Webber® HearBuilder® Sequencing Software Program – Professional Edition
Item #HBPE-499

Webber® Hear It! Say It! Learn It!™ Interactive Book-Software Program
Item #BKCD-407

Year 'Round Speech Calendar & Characters
Item #BBY-324

Classroom Time Timer®
Item #TTA-88

*Handy Handouts® are for classroom and personal use only. Any commercial use is strictly prohibited.