

Muscular Dystrophy Problem-Based Learning Pathfinder

INTRODUCTION TO THE TOPIC

This pathfinder has been created for Dr. Bagstad's Foundations of Special Education (EDUC 389) class. It is in no way intended to be an exhaustive source of information for your project, but rather, is designed as a starting point for your research on providing accommodations for the student with muscular dystrophy.

PRINT RESOURCES

Reference Books

Ref LC 3965 .H26

Handbook of Special Education

- This book is a basic reference work for students and professionals in special education and a practical guide for school personnel who are engaged in or contemplating the education of exceptional children. The Handbook is a little bit out-of-date, but it does have valuable information on:
 - Physical disabilities, including muscular dystrophy
 - Special adaptations necessitated by physical disabilities
 - Classroom management
 - The involvement of parents and families

Ref RC 41 .O84 1994

The Oxford Medical Companion

- This volume contains information about the origin, development, and present state of the medical sciences and medical practice for both health professionals and laypersons. This medical companion can be used to help you get a better understanding of muscular dystrophy, what causes it, and what the symptoms are.

Books

For a basic search of materials in Byrnes-Quanbeck Library, follow this recommended strategy:

- Type in the search term [Physical Disabilities] in the search box on the library's home page. After obtaining the results you will want to refine your search by date range on the left-hand side of the page as the library contains some older materials on the topic.

- If your report is on a specific learning disability, you should start with a keyword search for the disability. This will return results that include the term in the following areas:
 - Title
 - Subject Headings
 - Summary
 - Table of Contents
- If your specific search does not return adequate results you will need to search under a broader term and look in individual books for mention of your particular search phrase either the table of contents or the index.

Don't forget that the Byrnes-Quanbeck Library can also obtain materials for you through Interlibrary Loan. Go to the following two sources:

For North Dakota Libraries

- Use the drop down menu by the search box, scroll to the top and choose All Libraries
- Use the search strategy recommended above

For World Cat (libraries worldwide):

- www.worldcat.org

Browsing the Shelves:

- Books on learning disabilities can also be found by browsing the shelves starting with the Library of Congress Classification number: **LC 4201 – LC 4545**

Periodicals

Print

The following academic journals can be found in the library. You will, however, need to look in one of the library's online databases to find specific articles:

- Exceptional Children
- Intervention in School and Clinic
- Journal of Special Education
- Remedial and Special Education
- Teaching Exceptional Children
- Journal of Educational Research
- Journal of Classroom Interaction

Online

Using the search techniques discussed in the next section, you can find articles in EBSCOhost from the following academic journals:

- Journal of Developmental and Physical Disabilities
- Research and Practice for Persons with Severe Disabilities
- Inclusion of Students with Disabilities in the Least Restrictive Environment
- Educational Environments and Types of Disabilities
- Rural Special Education Quarterly
- Journal of Exceptional Children
- Technology and Disability
- Disability and Rehabilitation
- International Journal of Inclusive Education
- Exceptionality

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

EBSCOhost Research Databases

Use the same search strategy as you used for the library catalog. Remember to refine your search. You can do this by using the options available to you in the left-hand toolbar in EBSCO:

- Full Text: Choosing the full text option will only show you results that contain the full text of the article, rather than those that only contain an abstract or a citation.
- Scholarly (Peer Reviewed) Journals: Choosing this option will only show you results that have come from journals that are considered “scholarly.” The articles in those journals have gone through some sort of peer review process.
- Publication Date: You can limit your results to those published within the last ten or five years. Doing this will ensure that you have the most current information.
- Subject: Under the Subject tab on the left-hand toolbar, EBSCO will list some subjects. You can choose subjects from the list that best describe the information that you are seeking to further narrow your search results.

ERIC

ERIC (Education Resources Information Center) has a great thesaurus that can assist you in finding variant search terms if you are having difficulties. You can access the thesaurus from the top toolbar.

A few cautions:

- The majority of articles and other information sources found in ERIC do not include full text, so you will have to search for those items in the library catalog, the library's print serials list, or in one of the other online databases to find the full text of the articles.
- Articles that are not found in our library can also be requested through Inter-Library Loan. Inter-Library Loans can usually take at least a week to arrive.

WEBSITES

A Teacher's Guide to Neuromuscular Disease

<http://www.mda.org/publications/tchrdmd/>

- Produced by the Muscular Dystrophy Association, this guide covers a wide variety of information about children with neuromuscular disease in the classroom, including:
 - What a neuromuscular disease is
 - How neuromuscular disease affects the ability to learn
 - How neuromuscular disease affects families
 - How to talk to children about neuromuscular disease
 - And tips from the Muscular Dystrophy Association

Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy

http://www.parentprojectmd.org/site/PageServer?pagename=Care_educational_edmatters

- Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy is a large nonprofit organization focused on funding research, raising awareness, and promoting advocacy for Duchenne muscular dystrophy. The site has information about physical, emotional, behavioral and cognitive issues that are associated with muscular dystrophy, along with several guides for teachers aimed at "assisting teachers in providing a fulfilling education for the student with Duchenne."

U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs and Rehabilitative Services

<http://ed.gov/about/offices/list/osers/osep/index.html?src=mr>

- The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services is a government agency that provides support to states and local districts, so schools are best able to serve students with disabilities. Their website offers grants and funding opportunities as well as many publications about serving children with disabilities. These publications can be found through the *Publications and Products* link at the bottom of the introduction.

National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities

<http://nichcy.org/>

- NICHCY provides a great deal of information on disabilities, accommodations that can be made in schools for children with disabilities, and what you need to know about education law regarding students with disabilities. NICHCY also provides links to state organizations that can provide resources for schools or communities.

Website Evaluation

Websites used for this project must be evaluated for:

- Accuracy: Does the information complement information found in your textbook and library sources already found for the topic?
- Authority: Search for the author's name in Google and in EBSCOhost Databases. Has s/he written for academic journals or represent reputable organizations or institutions?
- Currency: Does the website list a date when it was last updated?
- Objectivity: Wikipedia is a great place to look up various organizations to see if there is any controversy surrounding their mission or behavior.