



## Parent Training & Information Center

# Documenting Your Child's Progress During the Shutdown

**Why should I document?** This is new territory for all of us. We don't know when school will resume and we all have different challenges. You may be the stay at home parent of an autistic child who is falling apart due to lack of routine, or you may be trying to juggle work from home with overseeing the learning of four children of differing ages and needs. There will be students who cope relatively well with the shutdown, and continue to learn, whilst others may find it almost impossible to meet the demands of online schooling. Most of our kids will probably fall somewhere in-between. Either way, schools are going to have a major challenge on their hands when they re-open and start figuring out how to resume your child's education. By documenting your child's progress during the shutdown, you will be able to present the school with vital information that will assist them in determining levels of regression, goals met and programming needs.

**But I'm already overwhelmed...** It's a lot to take in and many of us are already stretched by the dual role of parent/teacher that has been thrust upon us. This is not something you need to be doing every day but it may be helpful to take stock once a week. Even if you are just jotting down your thoughts in a notebook it will help. If you need a starting point, take a look at your child's IEP or 504 plan and just focus on those goals.

### Possible areas to document

- Behaviors e.g. refusal to work, meltdowns
- Areas of difficulty e.g. understanding text or dealing with fractions
- Areas of strength e.g. tasks your child was able to attend to easily
- Evidence of progress in relation to IEP targets (refer to your IEP for targets)
- New and emerging skills e.g. has your child been using Zoom, learning to cook, typing

### Documentary Evidence

- Your written account of notable events e.g. description of how your child coped with written assignment, how long it took etc.
- Photographs of your child working or, better still, video
- A binder with work samples
- List of any additional materials used e.g. books read, documentaries watched, workbooks completed
- Important comments or observations your child has made e.g. "I always find this difficult in school too, even when I get help"
- A journal, written or recorded by your child, if they are able and willing to do so.

### NEED MORE HELP?

Call our team at (845) 228 7457 and we will do our best to support you through this