

Socials Studies Modifications

- Use the Paint 'N Swirl to create backgrounds for projects and displays. The student chooses the colours.

- Survey classmates or people in the school or community around questions that relate to the socials studies topic. E.g.,
 - Where did your family originally come from?
 - What kinds of cultural celebrations do you participate in that are different?
 - What kinds of special dishes or foods relate to your heritage?
 - Have classmates help program the Step-by-Step Communicator.



- Use switch operated mixer to make modeling compound or cookie dough to make models for themes (planets, shadow boxes). The student may make some colour choices.
- Make a collage or diorama about a theme or topic the class is studying. (e.g., anything to do with cultures from other countries: food, dress, travel pictures, homes, etc.) The student could rip out pictures from magazines and paste with a glue stick with hand over hand assistance. A switch can also be used with electric scissors operated by a peer.

- Work on a project that has something to do with what the class is studying. Use concrete objects versus books. For example, make a button blanket when studying about First Nations People.



- Make a mobile, which relates to a theme the class is studying, (e.g., Haida Culture and any pictures or objects which relate to that theme). The student could work at sorting which items relate to the theme.
- Use the Powerlink and electric stapler to create socials studies booklets.
- Switch activate a voice output device with interesting facts about the subject being studied.

- Create crafts related to socials topic. (e.g., Left Photo - "Medicine Wheel" using needle felting technique; Right Photo - "God's Eye" using yarn to create designs.)



- Play background music that relates to the social studies theme while peers work on a project.



- Have the student make popcorn for classmates before viewing a social studies video.
- Give the steps for a project using the voice output device. Arrange for a small group and classmates work through this station (e.g., constructing a diorama).
- Use art ideas to create backgrounds for projects and displays (e.g., make sponge prints or Spin Art backgrounds for a socials studies mural or bulletin board borders).
- Help collect and deliver worksheets for classmates.

- Make a food that relates to something that the class is studying. In this picture, the student is using a switch, Powerlink and blender to make some smoked salmon paté as the class is studying First Nations.



- Help the teacher with photocopying worksheets.
- Operate a paper shredder to make nesting material for class pets.
- Classroom announcements (including homework, clues, tips, reminders) e.g.,
 - Today's question is....
 - Don't forget the project is due this week.
- Provide instructions such as page numbers or question numbers for assignments (e.g., turn to page 40 of your socials studies text book.)
- Provide answers to questions when correcting homework.

- Provide a question regarding the concepts being studied that day or for an upcoming test. (e.g., bonus points)

• Simplify questions for the student by identifying key objects or pictures and involve the student in matching, sorting or simple questions. This student is answering a simple question using a picture communication board. A larger picture cue is used to help cue the student. This reinforces communication and simple comprehension skills



- Gather materials for up-coming social studies activity for the teacher.
- Nominate someone for a social awareness award and explain why. This can be recorded on a Voice Output Device and presented by the student.
- Classmates could make up riddles based on a theme the class is studying. They could be recorded and the student could access a switch to play them back during sharing time. Classmates try to guess the riddles.

• Deliver messages for the teacher, e.g.,
 - Mrs. Smith needs some lined paper. Do you have any for her?
 - Dad, please sign the permission slip in my backpack so I can go to the law courts next week.



• Make up a crossword puzzle using words from the social studies topic. The assistant could record the questions (e.g., #2 down...) on a Step-by-Step Communicator, which is placed with the student at a centre with corresponding blank crossword puzzle sheets. The student would assist classmates during centre time to listen to the clues to fill in the crossword.

• Select a concept being studied by the class and search out age appropriate books or videos to involve the student in simple questions or matching activities. A theme related communication board is often helpful for this type of activity.

