



Professional Development Catalog

For Schools and Educators of Students with
Learning Differences





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Who is NILD?

Since 1973, the National Institute for Learning Development has trained 10,000+ educators and helped 100,000+ students become confident, independent learners.

NILD is more than traditional tutoring. Tutoring often focuses only on subject matter content, while NILD's therapies use subject matter as the learning vehicle to develop cognition and confidence.

We focus on root learning issues, helping learners overcome challenges by developing new learning paths. Our therapies build efficient learning processes and teach students how to think independently.

Our process focuses on the whole child: cognition, perception, academics, and emotions. By developing these four key components, students more effectively overcome their limitations and thrive in the classroom



Our Mission

NILD assists and supports students with learning differences to flourish through cognitive transformation by equipping therapists, classroom educators, and schools to help all students achieve.

Our Vision

That all children, (especially children with learning differences), receive the opportunity to learn and thrive.





What we do:

We provide training and professional certifications to the top specialists, educators, and schools in the world that include:

- Implementing learning strategies that “make it stick”.
- Improving teachers' instructional impact and students' academic growth.
- Motivating reluctant readers, writers, and mathematicians to become competent and confident learners.
- Incorporating science of reading and science of writing practices in classroom instruction and curriculum.
- Improving students' problem-solving and critical thinking by teaching students how to learn.
- Understanding the building blocks of learning to teach all learners and facilitate growth in students' cognitive abilities and emotional skills.



Our Methodology

We develop 4 key components to help students more effectively overcome limitations and thrive in the classroom.

Cognition

In order to make sense of the world around us, to give meaning to our experiences and to develop the ability to learn new information, we are dependent upon our cognition. Cognition refers to thinking processes such as reasoning, reflecting, attaching meaning, remembering, and evaluation.

Perception

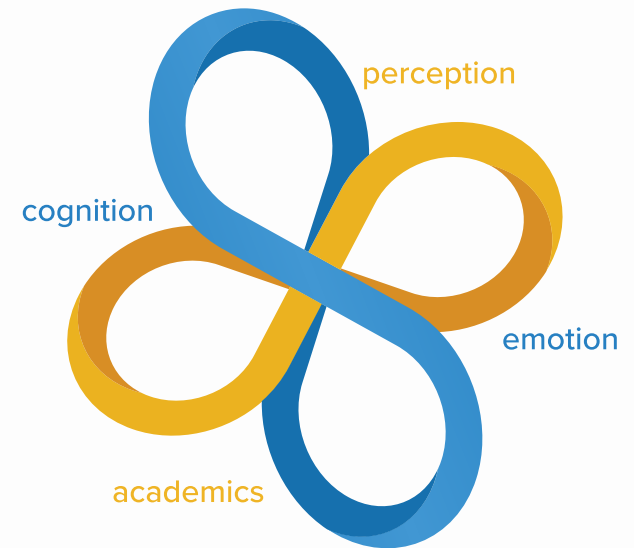
This refers to how we receive and process information whether through sight, sound, touch, movement, smell or taste. We must perceive information correctly in order for the brain to process the world around us.

Emotion

The way we feel about the world around us, our relationships with others and our approach to life is largely impacted by our emotions. Self confidence plays a key role in successful acquisition of new information, forming relationships and communicating our needs.

Academics

In order for students to successfully learn the required content and respond well to standards-driven instruction students must be taught "how to learn". Teaching a student how to learn creates independent learning skills that build competencies in cognition and processing so that the acquisition of academics becomes more efficient and effective.





Workshops

Virtual and in-person 1-2 day trainings taught by the top experts and specialists in educational therapy.

See Upcoming Workshop Dates at:
[NILD.ORG/TRAINING/WORKSHOPS](https://nild.org/training/workshops)

1-2 Day Virtual and In-Person Workshops



Early Childhood Reading, Writing & Math Workshops

Rx for Discovery Reading Fundamentals®

Trains pre-K to third-grade educators to teach foundational reading skills using science-of-reading methods, addressing phonology, fluency, morphology, comprehension, and multilingual learner needs.

Rx for Discovery Writing Fundamentals®

Trains pre-K to third-grade educators in the neuroscience of handwriting, using multi-modal practices for handwriting and writing success, exploring connections to reading and spelling through mediated learning.

Rx 4 Discovery Math I®

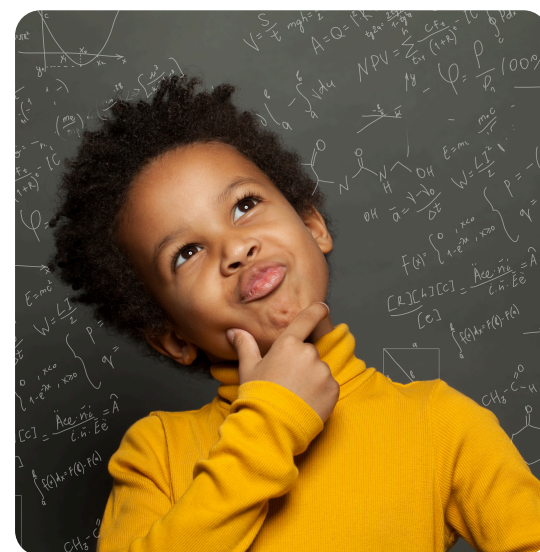
Trains educators to provide K-5 students struggling with basic math skills with effective group-based mathematical intervention.

GeoClock Fundamentals

Teaches educators how to strengthen K-2 math concepts by exploring the connection between spatial/temporal orientation and math skills, and providing hands-on practice for designing GeoClock-based lessons.

Search & Teach®

Trains educators to identify and address potential learning challenges in K-2 students, preventing future difficulties through early intervention strategies and reducing the risk of frustration-related failures.





1-2 Day Virtual and In-Person Workshops



Reading, Writing & Math Workshops

Rx for Discovery Reading Standard®

Trains educators to develop essential reading components (phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension).

Rx for Discovery Writing Standard®

Trains teachers to deliver group-based writing intervention for grades 4-12, targeting grammar, mechanics, vocabulary, sentence structure, and the writing process for students with below-standard skills.

Rx 4 Discovery Math II®

Trains educators to deliver intensive math intervention in small groups for grades 6-8 to develop problem-solving, self-regulation, and confidence in mathematics.

Spelling: Linking Reading & Writing

Introduces sound boxes, word sums, lexical matrices, and etymology activities as tools for understanding spelling, making it ideal for educators using Rx for Discovery Reading/Writing to build students' spelling skills.

1-2 Day Virtual and In-Person Workshops

Additional Workshops

Woodcock-Johnson IV

Helps educators identify and address underdeveloped executive function (EF) skills in students. Learn strategies to improve focus, organization, and emotional regulation, leading to a more effective learning environment and better student outcomes.

Group Educational Therapy

Learn how to harness the dynamic of one-on-one and multiply the effectiveness through group intervention.

Telepractice Workshops

Learn how to effectively provide NILD Teletherapy with the same accuracy as face-to-face.





Courses

NILD offers courses to become a Certified Educational Therapist and courses on implementing the Feuerstein Method.

See Upcoming Course Dates at:
[NILD.ORG/TRAINING/COURSES](https://nild.org/training/courses)

NILD Certification Courses

Earn certification as a NILD Educational Therapist, with optional Master's Degree paths through Regent or Southeastern University.

Level I

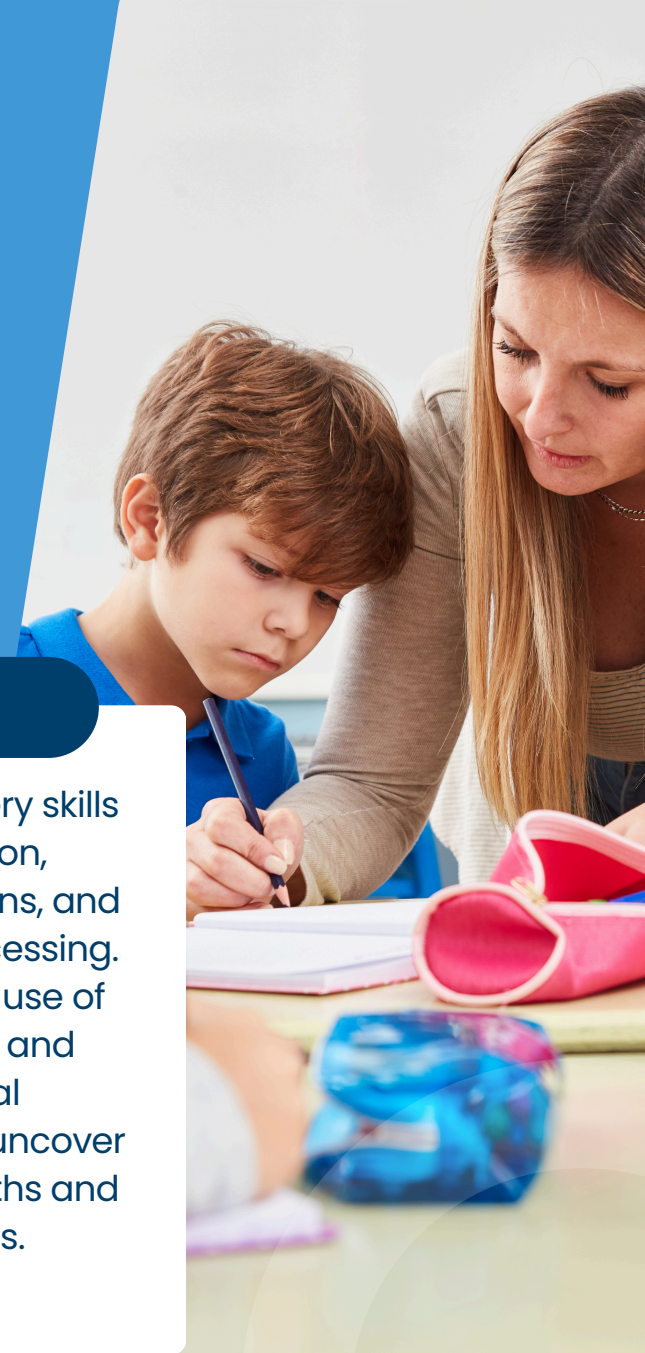
Prepares new educational therapists to identify and assess students' learning needs, and to create and implement individual educational therapy plans using NILD techniques tailored to educational goals.

Level II

Provides a review of Introductory NILD Educational Therapy® Techniques and introduces a series of techniques for advanced students, including mediated learning and questioning skills.

Level III

Enhances mastery skills and mediation, cognitive functions, and information processing. It advances the use of psychological and educational assessments to uncover cognitive strengths and weaknesses.



Feuerstein Courses

Feuerstein Instrumental Enrichment (FIE) strengthens learning, problem-solving & motivation with exercises to boost knowledge, thinking & creativity. Logical & perceptual sequencing, spatial & social skills all help students tackle learning challenges & boost performance.



FIE Basic

FIE-Basic is a cognitive program for younger learners or those needing extra support. It builds essential thinking skills like problem-solving, comparison, and understanding emotions. This program is flexible and beneficial for classrooms, after-school programs, or therapy.

FIE Standard Level I

Receive training in the theoretical basis for FIE and in the materials and didactics of four Instruments from the IE Program: Organization of Dots, Orientation in Space I, Comparisons, and Analytical Perception.

FIE Standard Level II

Study the theoretical aspects of IE and receive instruction and practice in preparing an IE lesson, as well as comprehensive instruction in the materials and didactics of five of the Instruments from the IE Program: Categorization, Family Relations, Temporal Relations, Instructions, and Illustrations.

FIE Standard Level III

Learn additional theoretical aspects of FIE, assessment, and practice in implementing an FIE lesson with a group. Includes comprehensive instruction in the remaining instruments of the IE Program: Orientation in Space II, Syllogisms, Representational Stencil Design, Transitive Relations and Numerical Progression.

Professional Development Opportunities



NILD offers a range of professional development presentations that range from 2-hours to full-day.

- **Reading Comprehension: The Power to Understand**
- **The Power of Oral Language**
- **Spelling: Orthographic Patterns and Memory**
- **The Intelligence Dilemma**
- **Why Teach Handwriting?**
- **Teaching How to Learn in a What to Learn Culture**
- **The Language Braid – Developing Critical Thinking Skills Through Literacy**
- **Affecting the Affect**
- **Best Practices in Test Writing – Pathway to Academic Excellence**
- **Developing a Preventive Mindset**
- **Reading Comprehension: Strategies That Work!**
- **Potential or Propensity?**

- **Developing Research-Based Reading Programs**
- **Differentiated Instruction for Students with Learning Needs**
- **Filling the Gaps: Enhancing Early Mathematical Concepts**
- **Fluency Factor**
- **Foundations of Reading**
- **Grammar: A Lost Art, A Forgotten Science**
- **Is the Cement Dry Yet?**
- **Mediated Learning – How to Enhance Student Learning**
- **Morphology: One Key to Vocabulary Development**
- **Moving Beyond Memorization**
- **Personal, Practical, Professional Development for Educators**

*This list is not all inclusive and is a sample of what NILD has to offer.



Case Study

Gaston Christian School

Challenge, Solution, Impact

The Challenge:

"We had so many heart-wrenching conversations because we had to tell families, 'We're not the right school for you,'" because of not being able to adequately support a growing number of students with learning differences.

-Tina Cook, Director of Cognitive Enrichment at Gaston Christian School

The Solution:

Partnership with NILD to launch a dedicated Cognitive Enrichment and Support Department which launched 3 core programs:

- **Educational Therapy:** One-on-one therapy for kids with diagnosed learning differences.
- **Discovery Reading Groups:** Targeted reading intervention for grade-level groups.
- **Academic Coaching:** Executive functioning skill-building and support for middle and high school students.

Having started with just 5 students in 2021, 3 years later, Gaston included 49 students in this program, hired more staff to be trained in NILD therapies, and plans to expand and serve more students in the coming years.

The Impact:

Since introducing NILD, Gaston Christian School has seen remarkable results, including:

Increased Enrollment: Both from new families seeking support and greater retention of existing students with learning differences.

Many Student Success Stories: Students who once struggled and lacked confidence are now flourishing academically and personally.

Success Stories: How NILD Transformed Student Performance

From Academic Struggles to Big Dreams

Once discouraged and struggling academically, a 7th-grade student has blossomed within the NILD program. His grades have improved noticeably, and he now actively participates in discussions that he previously shied away from. His parents shared their heartfelt gratitude: ***"We were at the end of our rope...NILD has not only changed our son's trajectory but has given our entire family renewed hope."***

Overcoming Challenges, Building Confidence

A 6th grader with several diagnoses and limited vocabulary has gained fluency and confidence in her reading journey. Now a determined student, she exemplifies the power of building on strengths. Her creativity and strong memory allow her to find innovative ways to tackle reading challenges. With unwavering resolve, she's transforming weaknesses into opportunities for growth.

Grade Reading Comprehension Breakthrough

A 4th grader overcame significant reading comprehension challenges. In two years, they progressed from below-average to average skills, joining the top 90% of their peers!

Writing Skills Take Flight

A 2nd grader made remarkable writing gains in just one year, moving to high-average abilities and surpassing the standard for their grade level.

Overcoming Reading Hurdles

A 3rd grader demonstrated substantial improvement in reading fluency and decoding in one year, reaching average ability in these foundational skills.

Below Average to Average

A 2nd grader entered the program with below-average decoding and writing skills. In just one year, they achieved average proficiency in both areas, demonstrating remarkable progress.

Cognitive Barriers Overcome

Despite facing cognitive challenges, a 5th grader achieved a major milestone: they moved their overall reading ability from below average to average in one year.



Bring NILD to Your School

We are here to help, whether you're looking to enroll one of your teachers in our program or aiming to build a comprehensive support system for more families.

Learn more at nild.org or schedule a call with us via email at info@nild.org.

Thank you!

