



When Learning Has No Boundaries, Success Has No End.

Since 1973, NILD has empowered struggling learners by training educators, developing effective learning programs, and applying research-based interventions to achieve lasting change.

How are we unique?

We focus on enhancing a student's cognitive abilities to succeed in any environment, rather than just adapting the environment to their learning challenges. Our aim is to strengthen, not just accommodate, weak cognitive connections.

Our History

The NILD Educational Therapy® model was developed in the 1960s by nurse educator Deborah Zimmerman. Many of her techniques were shaped by her work with early pioneers in the field of learning disabilities, such as Archie Silver, M.D. and Rosa Hagin, Ph.D. Since the inception of NILD, we have worked with more than 100,000 students.

Our Footprint Now

We have over 1,000 active NILD Educational Therapists globally, working in 48 states and 16 countries.

Your child is unique. We are, too.

Instead of adapting the learning environment to a student's unique learning struggles, we seek to change the way a person thinks so that he or she can succeed in any environment.



Phone

(757) 423-8646



Website

nild.org



Address

1540 Breezeport Way, Suite
500, Suffolk, VA 23435



We focus on the person and the potential.



Individual potential is unlocked.

NILD techniques strengthen vulnerable areas of thinking. Students are required to explain their thinking and explore problem-solving. In this way the needs of the individual are directly addressed.

Our Educational Therapists

Our educational therapists are expertly trained and certified, combining graduate-level education with ongoing professional development and mentorship. They possess a deep passion and skill for enhancing cognitive function, building confidence, fostering academic competence, and transforming struggling learners into lifelong achievers.

Our Therapy

NILD Educational Therapy® offers weekly 1-on-1 or small group interventions focused on cognitive development. These research-based sessions use dynamic interactive language and diverse materials to enhance thinking and information processing. Tailored to individual student needs, this unique therapy strengthens core academic abilities, independent thought, reasoning, questioning, and self-regulation.

Our Techniques

NILD Educational Therapy® employs language-based techniques to strengthen areas of cognitive vulnerability. Through active involvement, guided practice, and feedback, students articulate their thoughts and explore problem-solving strategies. Sessions are tailored based on individual student data, ensuring a personalized approach that addresses perception, processing, language, and cognitive needs.

Our Testing

Before starting NILD Educational Therapy®, an initial psycho-educational evaluation is required to customize sessions to each student's needs. In addition to this initial assessment, annual evaluations assess therapy effectiveness and inform future learning goals. Typically, students need three years of intervention, but the duration can vary based on individual learning requirements.

Our Distinctives

Through dynamic intervention combining interactive language, mediated learning, questioning, feedback, and guided practice, we develop core academic skills, independent thinking, and their application in classroom and life settings.

Our Goals

Our goal is to enhance students' learning and reasoning abilities, fostering lifelong learning and lasting cognitive improvements.

Our Results

Our approach transforms students into active learners, unlocking their potential and broadening their horizons. This prepares them not only for academic success but also for achievements beyond the classroom.



The result is lasting cognitive change.

Students become active participants in their own learning! They emerge not only better prepared to make the grade, but to also make the most of whatever comes their way and succeed beyond the classroom.



What People Are Saying

"I am impressed with the work NILD accomplishes in training educators to meet the learning and emotional needs of students. NILD members demonstrate an understanding of the learning process and an appreciation of the unique style of each child. They truly focus on the whole child, touching both heart and mind, reinforcing learning, hope, and resilience."
Robert Brooks, Ph.D., Faculty, Harvard Medical School, Author, The Self-Esteem Teacher and Co-author, Raising Resilient Children

"There are many organizations that believe that Special Education is an "art"...still others believe that Special Education is a "science". Few organizations have the wisdom to understand that Special Education is both an art and a science. NILD understands this."
Rick Lavoie, M.A., M.Ed., Administrator, Adjunct Professor, Visiting Lecturer, Author, It's So Much Work to Be Your Friend: Helping the Child with Learning Disabilities Find Social Success

"This year the second-grade boys from Crossroads Elementary School worked hard to develop a Yes, We Can attitude. They discovered that Yes, We Can identify Frye sight words, identify long and short vowel sounds, consonants, and blends, divide words into syllables, and identify open, closed, and silent-e syllables. But most importantly, they learned that Yes, We Can learn to become better readers."
Karen S., Educational Therapist

"NILD provided group in-depth interventions for students who have deficits in various areas of reading... Teachers commented on the improvement of their students... Post-testing results showed that students who received reading assistance scored significantly higher on tests following intervention."
Sandra C., Elementary School Principal

"After only six weeks of intervention, Takeyon eagerly asks to read aloud in class, answers questions, and even helps other students in his classroom!"
Allison M., Classroom Teacher