INTRO

WELCOME

From the National Center for Learning Disabilities, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

Welcome to the LD Navigator by ld.org – a free learning disabilities (LD) resource toolkit/guide designed to support pediatric healthcare providers so they can be most helpful to young people with learning disabilities and their parents.

Created by the National Center for Learning Disabilities (NCLD), in collaboration with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP), and made possible through a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the LD Navigator is like a compass to guide pediatric healthcare professionals as they navigate the complex seas of learning disabilities. It includes up-to-date information about screening, evaluation, classification and treatment, as well as addressing sensitive and important concerns over time of both the parents and the youth with a learning disability. The LD Navigator has been designed as a flexible, multi-sectioned resource that can be adopted into pediatric practice in a variety of ways. NCLD (www.ncld.org) develops and delivers programs and promotes research to improve instruction, assessment and support services for individuals with LD and this collaborative initiative furthers its mission to ensuring success for all individuals with LD in school, work and in life.

On behalf of NCLD, AAP and NAPNAP, we wish to thank everyone involved in bringing this important LD resource to fruition – from our earliest supporters in Drs. Kurt Metzl and Karen Miller, to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, to our Development Team of Drs. Carol Weitzman and Erik von Hahn from AAP, members of NAPNAP’s Developmental, Behavior, and Mental Health Special Interest Group, and Dr. Sheldon Horowitz of NCLD, all of whom provided expert guidance and insight. We also wish to thank Dr. Adele Schwartz of Leflein Associates, for her passion and authorship, and to the staff at AAP and NAPNAP for their partnership in bringing this important tool to the pediatric healthcare professional community.

We hope you find the LD Navigator a valuable resource in your pediatric clinical practice that will ultimately help children with LD and their parents.

Sincerely,

James H. Wendorf, Executive Director, National Center for Learning Disabilities
Thomas K. McNerny, MD, FAAP, President American Academy of Pediatrics
Susan Van Cleve, DNP, RN, CPNP-PC, President, National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

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