

## What are Some Important Teaching Strategies?

Teaching strategies, which should be built into the IEP for schoolage children, include:

- 1. Awareness of learning style: Use of simultaneous processing activities;
- 2. Whole word methods for reading and spelling;
- 3. Visual cues, including pictures, sign language, logos, and words;
- 4. Concrete, high interest examples and materials;
- 5. Modeling and imitation, for both behavioral and communication goals;
- 6. Integration of self-help goals with language and motor goals (eating, dressing, toileting);
- 7. Inclusion of functional skills, along with academic;
- 8. Highly structured, predictable routines, with visual cues for changes in expected events;
- 9. Opportunities for calming.

Gail Harris-Schmidt, Ph.D., CCC-SLP Saint Xavier University Chicago, Illinois