

New Life Christian School

Discovery Program

The National Institute for Learning Disabilities (NILD) was founded in 1982. Educational tools for learning were developed to offer hope for learning to children who struggle to learn. The goal of the program of Educational Therapy is to equip individuals with learning disabilities to succeed academically and in life as independent learners.

NILD Educational Therapy differs from tutoring in that cognitive and perceptual weaknesses are strengthened to support independent learning. This approach is individualized and intensive mediated learning. Compensatory techniques are avoided. In addition, Educational Therapy is based on six distinctives:

- Deficit Stimulation – strengthening learning skills
- Non-Tutorial – learning skills, not specific content
- Integrative – stimulating both perceptual and academic skills
- Individual and Intense – affecting cognitive change through skilled mediation
- Parental Involvement – providing continued stimulation at home
- All-Age Inclusive – enhancing thinking for individuals at all stages of life

(NILD – The Parent’s Guide)

Many of NILD’s techniques were developed through the work of pioneers in the field of learning disorders, such as Archie Silver, M.D. and Rosa Hagin, Ph.D. at Bellevue Medical Center in New York. IN 1973, these techniques were introduced into a school setting. NILD is currently an international organization with over 1000 active programs in 45 states and 46 countries (NILD – The Parent’s Guide).

New Life Christian School is privileged to be a member of NILD with the ability to meet the needs of students who struggle with learning through our Discovery Program. Educational therapists, who have been certified with NILD, generally work with students who have an average or higher intelligence quotient, but have difficulty maintaining average grades within the normal classroom setting.

Students who struggle with learning are usually identified by their classroom teachers or referred by their parents for further analysis through testing to find out why the student is struggling in their learning process. Several steps are followed within the guidelines of our referral program. These steps are:

- Teachers fill out observation sheets about the student.
- Teachers contact parents to let them know about their child’s struggles.
- Teachers fill out a referral form about the student and give it to the Discovery Program Coordinator.
- The Coordinator contacts the parents and discusses the referral and their options for further analysis of their child’s learning difficulties.

- A testing session can then be set up with the Program Coordinator and a qualified psychologist to identify areas of cognitive strengths and patterns of weaknesses.
- The Program Coordinator will then meet with the parents to review the results of testing to determine whether or not the student has a learning disability and could benefit from educational therapy.
- Parents can then decide whether or not to put their child in the Discovery Program.
- If the child participates in the program, they will be administered a series of baseline tests for present and future comparisons.

The Discovery Program is at least a three-year commitment, depending on the student. Some students may need more time to bring them to the point of independent learning.

The costs for this program are in addition to the normal tuition of NLCS. Costs include:

- Testing fee - \$425
- Registration fee - \$150
- Tuition for 2015-2016 is \$4750 (paid in monthly installments)
- Purchase of a chalkboard

Parents who would like to inquire about formal testing procedures and eligibility for considering their child for this program should contact the Program Coordinator, Mrs. Lorraine Kemp.

Educational therapy curriculum and tools have been developed by NILD to assure that all therapy students will be exposed to the same information throughout the program. These materials include but are not limited to:

Auditory Memory Training Exercises	NILD
Listen My Children and You Shall Hear	Pro-Ed
Listen Most Carefully	NILD
Reading and Thinking	Teachers College Press
The Blue Book	NILD
Sounds of Speech	NILD
Sounds of Reading	NILD
Sounds of Language	NILD
Sounds of Meaning	NILD
Mediating Math	NILD
Body Image Puzzles	NILD
Morse Code	(unspecified)
Getting the Main Idea	SRA McGraw-Hill
Forms	NILD
Let's Read	Educator's Publishing Serv.
Bellwork	NILD
Mental Math in Middle Grades	Dale Seymour Publications
Mental Math in Junior High	Dale Seymour Publications
Moveable Alphabet	Lauri

Pythagoras
Rhythmic Writing
Square Puzzles
HELP
Reading Comprehension in Varied Subject Matter
Analogies
Wordly Wise
Six-Way Paragraphs
Timed Readings in Literature
Timed Reading
Solving Language Difficulties
Spell of Words
Spellbound
How to Spell
Bible
Dictionary

NILD
NILD
NILD
LinguiSystems, Inc.
Educators Publishing Serv.
Educators Publishing Serv.
Education Publishing Serv.
Jamestown Publishers
Jamestown Publishers
Jamestown Publishers
Educators Publishing Serv.
Educators Publishing Serv.
Educators Publishing Serv.
Educators Publishing Serv.
(unspecified)
(unspecified)

Testing materials include:

Woodcock-Johnson – IV (Tests of Achievement, and Oral Language)
Roe-Burns Reading Inventory
Bender Gestalt Visual Motor Test
Wepman’s Auditory Discrimination Test
Goodenough-Harris Drawing Test
Informal Tests

Riverside Publishing Co.
Houghton-Mifflin
Western Psychological Serv.
Western Psychological Serv.
The Psychological Corp.
NILD