



Orientation to KidSkills™


Teaching the Strategies and Software to Students






What is KidSkills?

- KidSkills is a computer tool program to help children be successful in school.
- The tools consist of easy-to-use templates for children to create organizational, memory, and learning strategy guides.
- Content entered into the tools is saved into a text file to provide a complete record of the child's work.






Here's an example of an organizational tool: Homework Planner

Homework Planner

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before Dinner	Soccer game	Homework	Soccer practice	Music lesson	Soccer practice
After Dinner	Homework	Scouts	Homework	Homework	Homework
Week-End	Saturday Free time		Sunday Work on science project		

Name: Elementary School Example Date: 8/8/02



**Here's an example of a memory tool:
Pegword Memory Card**

Pegword Memory Card

Class: Science Topic: Geological makeup of the Earth

<p>1. = solid core</p> <p>2. = liquid core</p> <p>3. = mantle</p> <p>4. = continental crust</p> <p>5. = oceanic crust</p>	<p>6. = _____</p> <p>7. = _____</p> <p>8. = _____</p> <p>9. = _____</p> <p>10. = _____</p>
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Name: Middle School Date: 8/28/2006

**Here's an example of a strategy tool:
Big Chunker**

Big Chunker


Class: Science Topic: Rock Formation

<p>Earth's Layers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> crust <input type="checkbox"/> mantle <input type="checkbox"/> outer and inner cores 	<p>Sedimentary Rocks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> gypsum <input type="checkbox"/> sandstone <input type="checkbox"/> limestone 	<p>Metamorphic Rocks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> quartz <input type="checkbox"/> slate <input type="checkbox"/> marble
<p>Igneous Rocks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> lava <input type="checkbox"/> igneous <input type="checkbox"/> magma 		

Name: Middle School Example Date: 8/16/02

Who Uses KidSkills?


- The tools are created for children with learning and behavior problems.
- There are two levels of tools.
 - ❖ **eKidSkills** is for elementary school children, ages 7-10.
 - ❖ **iKidSkills** is for middle school children, ages 11-13.
- Teachers and parents use **KidSkills Resources** for information.




Here is How KidSkills Works



KidSkills is friendly for children!!!

- Children act as guides through the tools and their voices are used to give directions.
- There are multiple ways to start over, see examples, and continue working on entries.
- Entries can be edited.
- The most recent tool prepared by the child may be called up from storage and edited.
- Picture icons are used for basic choices in the program.







The child logs in with name...

Please type in your first and last name and press the Enter or the Return key.







Student Name







Goes to the main menu...

Pick a Tool!

<small>Getting Organized</small>  <small>Ben</small>	<small>Learning New Stuff</small>  <small>Niki</small>	<small>Organizing Information</small>  <small>Phillip</small>
<small>Preparing for Tests</small>  <small>Melissa</small>	<small>Doing Homework</small>  <small>Adam</small>	<small>Doing Projects</small>  <small>Danielle</small>







Selects a specific tool from a menu...

Learning New Stuff

KWL Chart

What I Know

What I Want to Learn

What I Learned

Advance Text Organizer

What I Know

What I Want to Learn

What I Learned

New Words

Word	Meaning	Use This Word

My Notes

eNotes

Learning New Stuff cards can help you plan and make notes for what you need to learn. Pick one and try it out!



Sees an example and directions...

How to Make Your Own Card

1 In the first box, type what you already know about the topic.

2 In the second box, type questions you want to answer.

3 Then print the card.

4 Use this card to write what you learn.

Class: Science Topic: Rock Formation

What I Know:

- Rocks come from the Earth.
- Rocks are different colors and hardness.

What I Want to Learn:

- What are rocks made of ?
- How are rocks formed ?

Source: Textbook

What I Learned:

Click on me to start making your own card!



Picks an old or new card...

Click on the red words to type main headings and important points from your text.

Class: Source: Topic: 1. 2. 3. 4. 5.

Do you want to continue working on an old card? Or do you want to start a new one?

Old Card!

New Card!

Name: baby student Date: 10/10/10

Fills in the tool ... and prints...

Click on the red words to type what you know and your questions.

Class: Music Topic: Woodwind instruments

What I Know:
Some woodwinds are flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe, bassoon.
Some woodwinds are made out of wood, but some are made of silver.
Some woodwinds use reeds, but some do not.

What I Want to Learn:
1. Are bagpipes woodwinds?
2. Why is the flute a woodwind - it is not made out of wood?
3. Do all bands have woodwinds?

Source: my music book and I will ask my band teacher

What I Learned:

See Example Start Over Name: Student Name Date: 8/14/02 Print Exit

KidSkills

Exits to save the tool contents.

Click on the red words to type what you know and your questions.

Class: Music Topic: Woodwind instruments

What I Know:
Some woodwinds are flute, clarinet, saxophone, oboe, bassoon.
Some woodwinds are made out of wood, but some are made of silver.
Some woodwinds use reeds, but some do not.

What I Want to Learn:
1. Are bagpipes woodwinds?
2. Why is the flute a woodwind - it is not made out of wood?
3. Do all bands have woodwinds?

Source: my music book and I will ask my band teacher

What I Learned:

When you exit, your card will be erased. Do you want to stay on this card or exit?

Stay on this card! Exit this card!

See Example Start Over Name: Student Name Date: 8/14/02 Print Exit

KidSkills

Big Ideas in Designing KidSkills


The diagram consists of four overlapping circles:

- Top-left circle: Cognitive Approaches
- Top-right circle: Performance Support Tools
- Bottom circle: Strategy Instruction
- Central circle: Kid Skills

Intersections and internal labels:


- Intersection of Cognitive Approaches and Performance Support Tools: method
- Intersection of Cognitive Approaches and Strategy Instruction: content
- Intersection of Performance Support Tools and Strategy Instruction: materials
- Intersection of all four: Kid Skills


KidSkills



Rationale: Strategy Instruction


- The main idea behind KidSkills is to teach the strategies children need for school survival and success in learning.
- Chances of success in school are improved when children use skills such as time management, note-taking, textbook strategies, information organization, and test-taking skills along with self-monitoring procedures.
- Strategies must be taught before guided use and independent use are expected.






Rationale: Cognitive Approaches


- Cognitive training programs combine direct instruction in strategy training with support and opportunities for independent development and use of strategies.
- In this approach, the child has responsibility for his/her strategy plan. The child uses step-by-step procedures in making strategy plans. Assistance is provided through instruction and tool supports until the child is successful.
- Thinking skills are developed through repetition and usage.






Rationale: Performance Tools

- An electronic performance support system is a new type of software that offers training and support in the “right place, right time, right form.” The goal of EPSS software is to provide whatever is necessary to ensure performance at the moment of need.
- EPSS software include needed information, guidance, and tools to carry out tasks.
- This approach supports generalization of skills across settings and subject areas.







How Do We Teach KidSkills?

Students are most successful when they learn by direct instruction. The teacher should:


- Introduce, provide examples, and discuss the utility and application of KidSkills software to the whole class.
- Create tools with student input while modeling the use of the software.
- Have students explore KidSkills on computers
- Support students in creating their own tools.






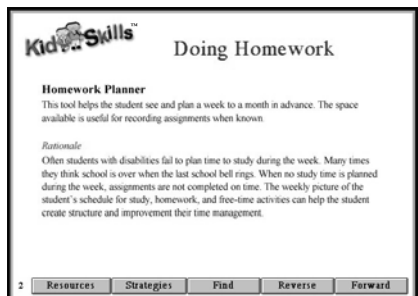
What is KidSkills Resources?

- The KidSkills Resources program provides information to help teachers and parents learn about KidSkills and see examples of all the template tools.
- This searchable database provides a description and rationale for each tool, examples at both levels of KidSkills, and tips for developing and implementing the tools.





Overview of Each Tool: KidSkills Resources





Doing Homework

Homework Planner
This tool helps the student see and plan a week to a month in advance. The space available is useful for recording assignments when known.


Rationale
Often students with disabilities fail to plan time to study during the week. Many times they think school is over when the last school bell rings. When no study time is planned during the week, assignments are not completed on time. The weekly picture of the student's schedule for study, homework, and free-time activities can help the student create structure and improvement their time management.

Resources Strategies Find Reverse Forward





**Tips for Using Each Tool:
KidSkills Resources**





Doing Homework

Tips for Homework Planner

1. Students should start weekly homework scheduling at the beginning of the school year.
2. First, students should record their time usage for a period of one week (or one schedule rotation (e.g., six day rotation) to determine what they are currently doing with their time.
3. Then students should begin to structure their time for study and homework from the information received during the first week of recording.
4. Students should adjust their schedule to include school work requirements.
5. Use the "Note Home" tool to relate this information and procedure to the parents.
6. Involve the parents in establishing a routine homework time using the "Homework Planner".
7. Check with parents to assure the "Homework Planner" is being used.
8. Redesign or adjust as necessary.

4 Resources Strategies Find Reverse Forward





Project Information


Programs can be downloaded from
<http://KidTools.missouri.edu>


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Extend Your Learning of These Approaches

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