Students today have a large continuum of learning needs. Addressing these needs requires a variety of tools and strategies. Research supports using SIM Learning Strategies’ explicit, systematic instruction to meet varying learning needs, including for students receiving special education services.

Approximately 13% of school age students receive special education services to meet their individual needs. A small percentage of these students have needs so great they require alternative approaches. Educators addressing the more significant needs of students often struggle to find appropriate instructional tools, requiring them to make adaptations.

This presentation shares how two educators implemented adapted SIM Learning Strategies addressing their students significant behavioral and/or cognitive needs. Educators maintained the integrity of the strategies while using pop culture headlines and materials to engage students, provided chunked lessons, and extended frequent learning opportunities to address student learning rate. Outcomes included students who were highly engaged and exceeded academic expectations.

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