2016 Texas Focus Conference
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Orientation and Mobility and the Expanded Core Curriculum
Friday 3:30-5:00 PM

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Developed for
Texas School for the Blind & Visually Impaired
Outreach Programs
O&M and the ECC
Fitting it all in, integrating expanded core curriculum into orientation and mobility instruction

Building an Adult Independence
The “system” has forgotten this.
The O&M is responsible for...
Orientation and Mobility Skills
The TVI is responsible for...
Expanded Core Curriculum
• Compensatory Skills
• Social Interaction Skills
• Rec and Leisure
• Orientation and Mobility
• Independent Living Skills
• Career Education
• Sensory Efficiency Skills
• Self Determination
• Assistive Technology

What is the TVI really doing?
• Academic modifications
• Assessment
• Test administration
• Ordering materials
• Writing IEP’s
• Teaching Braille
• And if there’s time…
• Cooking
• Shoe tying
• Stop rocking, stop eye pressing, stop doing that! *social skills*

Slide 10
In today’s school climate, the orientation and mobility instructor is better suited to teach much of the Expanded Core Curriculum
Story Time

Figure 1 Will a 5th grade student with legal blindness is yelling triumphantly after doing exceptionally well in a cross country race

- Compensatory Skills
- Social Interaction Skills
- Rec and Leisure
- Orientation and Mobility
- Independent Living Skills
- Career Education
- Sensory Efficiency Skills
- Self Determination
- Assistive Technology

Forget “Your Job/Their Job”

We all work on the whole child.

My Strategies

My Job Redefined

ECC Specialist

The student drives the learning

Balance on the edge of frustration

Give no answers unless necessary to get balanced.

In EVERYTHING I do, build independence.

- Are my actions moving this student toward or away from independence?
- If I were not here today, would this student be able to do this?
- Is there even a little step I can take that will add just a little more independence?
Take advantage of the world

Figure 2 Mickey is bent over doing hand over hand with a student in 3rd grade who is a braille reader using a watering can. The two are watering tubs of soil filled with vegetable seeds while another male student with low vision stands behind and observes.

Slide 19

“Mickey has done a great job on campus to help build Corbin’s self confidence in climbing, balance and also taking risks. Corbin will independently attempt things that “look” scary to us. This spring we got a new back yard play set with a fort. Corbin loved scaling the outside wall of the 12ft high fort the first time he played with it! He also was very excited that it came with a fire man pole to slide down. I feel the exposure and practice with complex or challenging skills in his O&M lessons helps him have no fear when it comes to trying new things.”

~Lottie; Corbin’s Mom

Slide 20

“Madison made great improvements in interacting with her peers on the playground area. She has finally moved past just swinging and was exploring all of the play equipment. I truly believe it has allowed her to grow mentally and not to mention what it has done for her self confidence.”

~Vickie; Madison’s mom

Notes:
Texas School for the Blind & Visually Impaired
Outreach Programs

Figure 3 TSBVI logo.

This project is supported by the U.S. Department of Education, Special Education Program (OSEP). Opinions expressed here are the authors and do not necessarily represent the position of the Department of Education.

Figure 4 IDEAs that Work logo and OSEP disclaimer.