

Developing an Elevator Relationship

Activity Suggestions

The most important consideration in selecting an activity is whether it's interesting to you and your student. At your first meeting, talk about things you and your student would like to do together or learn together, find out what your student's passions and interests are and share yours. Here is a short list of things that you and your student can do together, but the key is doing something you both enjoy.



- **Draw/Color:** It helps if you give your student a little direction and for you to draw with them.
- **Read:** Have your student read a page to you and then read one to them. That takes a little pressure off, helps your student understand inflection.
- **Play Games:** If your student doesn't know the rules teach him/her or learn together. Teaching your student how to lose a game is as important as teaching them how to win. Helping your student learn to "lose" gracefully can help develop their social and emotional skills.
- **Go Outside:** Depending on the rules of your particular school, you can take your student into the gym or outside (if there is someone from school staff within eyesight). A game of HORSE can help students learn to spell. Students are often more willing to open up when they are engaged in a sport or activity.
- **Share:** Bring in photos of yourself and tell your student about your life. Students love hearing stories about times their Elevator made a mistake. It teaches them that making a mistake isn't always a bad thing.
- **Teach:** Teach your student how to tell time, use a camera or use a calculator.
- **Role Model:** Show him or her the importance of a firm handshake and making good eye contact
- **Learn:** Ask your student what they are learning in class or find out what they are passionate about (bugs, space, Harry Potter etc.) and ask them to teach you about that particular subject.
- **Build:** Work on building models together or use building blocks to make anything you want.
- **Create:** Cut out pictures from magazines and create a collage or download recipes from the internet and make a cook book together. Make a movie together. Help your student to create a "picture book" in PowerPoint or use Excel to create a worksheet for a count of objects and colors.
- **Inspire:** Teach your student something you are passionate about!