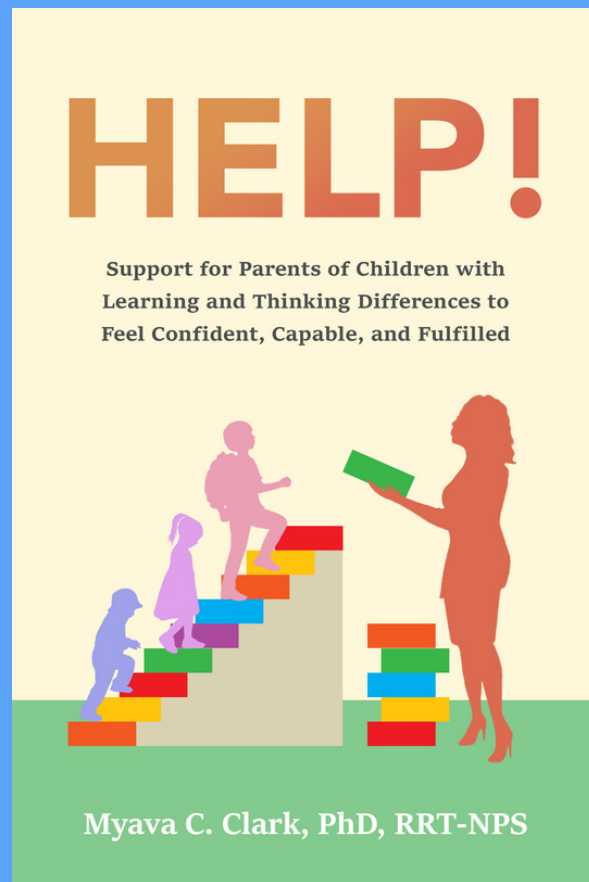


Glossary



The Glossary from *HELP! Support for Parents of Children with Learning and Thinking Differences to Feel Confident, Capable, and Fulfilled!*



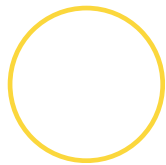
Hello,

Thank you for reading *HELP! Support for Parents of Children with Learning and Thinking Differences to Feel Confident, Capable, and Fulfilled*. I am Dr. Myava Clark and I am the mother of Chris Clark Jr. The stories in *HELP!* are based on Chris' personal experiences. The purpose of my writing *HELP!* was to empower parents with tools and resources that will help you become stronger advocates for your children. These resources included a literature review of sources from people well versed in the special education process.

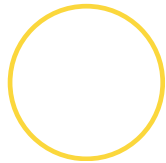
Our goal for the *HELP! Glossary* was to provide parents and caregivers with a tool that you can take with you as you navigate the IEP process. This tool defines the most commonly used terms which will help you become a better acquainted with the terms used in special education. We hope that you find the *HELP! Glossary* useful! Buckle up and join the ride as we go on this journey together.

Sincerely,
Dr. Myava and Chris Clark

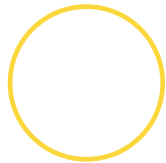
The *HELP!* Glossary are like CliffNotes (a study guide) for parents and caregivers



Parents and caregivers new to special education



Parents and caregivers feeling overwhelmed



Parents and caregivers feeling who want to be better advocates

HELP!

Support for Parents of Children with Learning and Thinking Differences to Feel Confident, Capable, and Fulfilled



Myava C. Clark, PhD, RRT-NPS

Glossary

504 plans:

Formal plans schools develop to give kids with disabilities the support they need and prevent discrimination. These plans are covered under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

Assistive technology (AT):

Any device, software, or equipment that helps people with disabilities learn, communicate, or function better.

Asymptomatic:

Showing or experiencing no symptoms.

Bilirubin:

A yellowish pigment created during the breakdown of red blood cells before being processed by the liver and being excreted out of the body.

Bullying:

Is intentional repeated behavior that is physically, emotionally, or socially hurtful to another person.

Counselors, Clinicians, and Therapists:

Professionals who are trained to evaluate a person's mental health.

Cyberbullying:

Bullying conducted via digital devices like cell phones, computers, and tablets.

Developmental delay:

When a child is considered less mentally or physically developed than a typically developing child for their age.

Developmental pediatrician:

Also referred to as a developmental behavioral pediatrician, developmental pediatricians focus on developmental, behavioral and learning issues from infancy through young adulthood.

Digital footprint:

Anything you post online including things you actively put online, like photos, and more passive information you share about yourself.

Diversity:

A measurement of the degree that something varies from a specific thing in the environment such as an ecosystem, a nation, a school, or the workplace.

Due process complaint:

A semi-formal proceeding where you and the school present evidence to an impartial hearing officer who decides if your child is eligible for special education services. (See also State complaint.)

Eligibility meeting:

This meeting occurs after your child completes a school evaluation and is when the testing team and the child's parents agree on an IEP for the child.

Inclusion/mainstream class:

A traditional classroom with a general education teacher. Inclusion placements have the benefit of keeping children in the mainstream of school life with higher-achieving peers, but may not be able to provide the intensive help some students need.

Independent educational evaluation (IEE):

An IEE is conducted by an outside professional who is not employed by the school. An IEE can be useful if you want to challenge the school's denial of services.

Individual Service Plan (ISP):

Individual Education Programs are IEPs that are available to students who attend private schools.

Individualized Education Program (IEP):

Also referred to as an Individualized Education Plan is a map that lays out the program of special education instruction, supports, and services of the individual child needed to make progress and thrive in school. IEPs are covered and protected by special education law, or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

Jaundice:

A medical condition where the skin and the whites of the eyes become yellowed as a result of increased levels of bilirubin.

Learning and Thinking Difference:

Involve the way the brain processes information. However, learning and thinking differences are not related to intelligence.

Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW):

Professionals who are trained to evaluate a person's mental health and use therapeutic techniques in individual and group therapy.

Marginalized:

A person or group treated as insignificant.

Mediator:

A neutral professional who works with parents and the school to find a solution to any disagreements regarding a child's education.

Neurodiversity:

Pertains to every human having a unique combination of abilities and needs.

Neurodiversity movement:

is meant to shift mainstream perceptions of marginalized neurominorities and replace negative deficit-based stereotypes of neurominorities with a more balanced valuation of their gifts and needs.

Neurominorities:

Any group, such as people with autism, that differs from most of the population in terms of behavioral traits and brain function.

Parent Training and Information Center:

Its purpose is to give parents the skills and information they need to work with schools that provide special education services. The center may have a library, support groups and other resources and the center's staff may be able to answer specific questions about your state's special education rules.

Parent Training and Information Centers (PTIs):

These centers offer free information to parents of children with disabilities and there is at least one PTI in every state.

Pediatrician:

A physician who specializes in medical care and preventative health care for infants, children, and young adults. These physicians manage their patient's developmental growth which includes a child's physical, behavioral, and mental health, as well as their emotional well-being.

Psychiatrists:

A licensed medical doctor who diagnoses mental health issues and prescribes medication. Some may also provide therapy.

Psychologists:

Holds a doctoral degree and can diagnose mental health issues and provide individual and group therapy.

Resource room:

A learning space for students who need intensive help to keep up with grade-level work in a particular subject. A special-education teacher works with a small group of students, using techniques that work more efficiently with a special-needs population.

Response to intervention (RTI):

A schoolwide approach for identifying and helping struggling students. The U.S. Department of Education has mandated that RTI cannot be used to delay or deny special education services.

School evaluation process:

Also called a comprehensive educational evaluation, this series of tests is used to measure a student's challenges and strengths. Tests may include psycho-educational testing, interviews, classroom observations, and functional behavior assessments (FBAs).

School psychologists:

A licensed professional who provides counseling to students at school.

Social-Emotional Needs:**Self-awareness:**

The ability to be in tune with your feelings, thoughts, and actions and being able to recognize how other people see you.

Self-contained class:

A small, controlled setting composed of children having special needs who benefit from special services with a special-education teacher.

Social cues:

The nonverbal signals people send through body language and expressions.

Social-Emotional Needs:

A type of special educational needs in which children may have extreme difficulties in managing their emotions. Children with social-emotional needs often show inappropriate responses and feelings to situations and they may have trouble building and maintaining relationships with peers.

Social skills groups:

Are groups of two to eight children led by an adult who teaches the children to interact appropriately with others their age. These groups can help children learn conversational, friendship, and problem-solving skills. They can also be useful in teaching children how to control their emotions and understand other people's perspectives.

Social wellness:

refers to the relationships we have and how we interact with other people such as, friends and family.

Special Education Advocate:

a special education advocate helps parents understand available services, interpret test results and work with schools to plan IEPs while making sure the child's special needs are met

Special Education Attorney:

a special education attorney is a legal professional who is familiar with your state's school system and the specific laws, requirements, and precedents governing schools' responsibility to make sure the child's accommodations are met

Specially designed instruction (SDI)

ensures that progress is made towards the child's IEP objectives and goals by giving the child access to the general education classroom. SDI allows the child to receive the same educational standards as their typically developing peers.

State complaint:

A letter to the agency in charge of education in your state where you present evidence to an impartial hearing officer who decides if your child is eligible for special education services.

Stay put rights:

These rights prevent the removal of special education services and from your child's learning environment until the challenge is settled.

Transition plan:

A strategy for helping your child move from high school to adult life.



Chris Clark Jr.

Chris Clark Jr. graduated from high school in 2016. He attended community college for social work. When Chris was a teenager, he was very inappropriate, when he started out on social media. He would befriend people who he should not have befriended, such as adults he did not know in real life. Chris would also share inappropriate posts made by other people. Chris even experienced bullying which eventually caused him to have anxiety and later depression, as a result of social media. Fortunately, Chris Sr. and Chris Sr.'s friends taught him how to become appropriate on social media. Therefore Chris came up with the idea of CASEN (Collaborative Advancement for Social-Emotional Needs) to help prevent other kids from struggling on social media like he did when he first started.

"I want to prevent kids from struggling on social media and have a safe social space."

Dr. Myava Clark

Dr. Myava Clark has a PhD in Professional Studies which includes a degree in both Leadership & Administration and Higher Education. Dr. Clark is a wife and mother of two. She is a registered respiratory therapist and a neonatal pediatric specialist, as well as a college professor. Both her children have special needs: her son has learning differences and her daughter has medical challenges. Dr. Clark started CASEN (Collaborative Advancement for Social-Emotional Needs) with her son, Chris Clark Jr. to support parents of children with learning and thinking differences, as they meet the needs of their children. For more information about Dr. Clark and CASEN, head on over to her website, www.casenllc.com

"Everyone needs a safe space to feel trusted, respected, and valued. CASEN is that safe space!"