

# NEWS & VIEWS

Tips. Research. Best Practices. Community.

## INCREASING EMPLOYMENT

FOR STUDENTS  
WITH  
COGNITIVE  
DISABILITIES



Educators around the world have the same goal – helping their students succeed in life. While success looks different for each student, meaningful employment and independent living are two major markers of success in adulthood. Often, students with cognitive disabilities are not given the same opportunities to achieve these goals as their peers.

In our April Webinar Wednesday, Nicole Lowers gave techniques for addressing this gap in education.



**Nicole Lowers**, winner of the 2023 Gary Bates Memorial Award for Excellence in Career Education, was our [April Webinar Wednesday](#) guest speaker! Nicole Lowers M. Ed, is a secondary/transition-aged autistic support and life skills support teacher with Intermediate Unit One in McMurray, PA, a Pittsburgh Suburb.

She has over 12 years of teaching experience in settings that include students with autism and intellectual disabilities. The first 6 years of her teaching career was spent in alternative education settings working with secondary students with emotional and behavioral disabilities. In addition to assisting students with increasing vocational skills, she also provides curriculum to increase verbal behavior, functional communication, daily living, and academic skills. In 2023, she developed a daily living lab at her school to increase independent living skills.

## WATCH THE WEBINAR

Watch the video Nicole played during the webinar by following the link at the bottom of this newsletter!



## COMMUNITY COLLABORATION



*Learn about healthy meals in the classroom, and then take it a step further in your cafeteria!*

One of the best ways to prepare students for a lifetime of success is to give them early exposure to the businesses in the local community. The workforce is excited to hire skilled workers, so take advantage of partnerships with your local community!

- Partner with them for work study placements
- Have local business representatives talk to students about career options
- Take learning outside the classroom! A quick field trip to a grocery store, for example, can quickly turn into learning about creating healthy meals, counting money, or budgeting!

# TRACK STUDENT PROGRESS WITH BUILT-IN DATA COLLECTION SHEETS!

Available in all Project Discovery materials!

[LEARN MORE](#)

Task	Completed
1. Greet the customer	
2. Ask for the item and price	
3. Ask for the cash or credit	
4. Ask for the cash or credit	
5. Ask for the cash or credit	
6. Ask for the cash or credit	
7. Ask for the cash or credit	
8. Ask for the cash or credit	
9. Ask for the cash or credit	
10. Ask for the cash or credit	
11. Ask for the cash or credit	
12. Ask for the cash or credit	
13. Ask for the cash or credit	
14. Ask for the cash or credit	
15. Ask for the cash or credit	
16. Ask for the cash or credit	
17. Ask for the cash or credit	
18. Ask for the cash or credit	
19. Ask for the cash or credit	
20. Ask for the cash or credit	



## SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

Education is all about developing skills! Strive to provide skills your students will need for success in life. For some students, this may not be the “traditional” curriculum. For all students, you can always look for ways to integrate local standards with:

- Independent living skills (like laundry or banking)
- Employability skills (like crafting a resume or interviewing)
- Job-related tasks (like making change or customer service)



*Learning how to use money is a crucial skill for everyone to learn!*

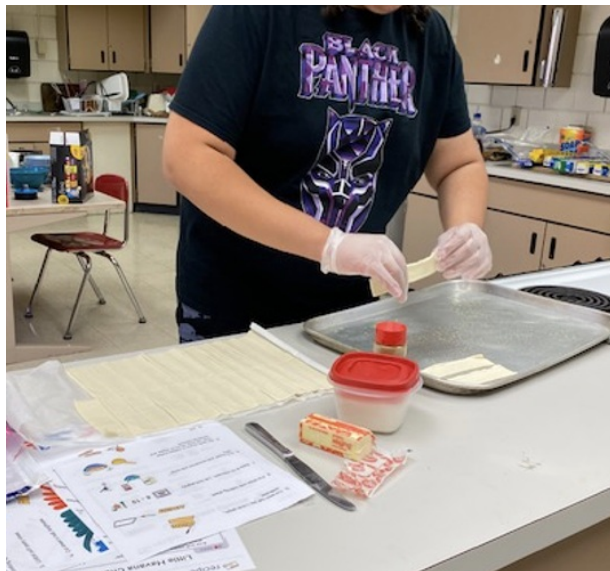
## RECOGNIZE SKILLS WITH DIGITAL BADGE CREDENTIALS!

[LEARN MORE](#)



## METHODS MATTER





*Student utilizes visual instructions while baking.*

Utilize research-backed methods when teaching students with cognitive disabilities. This allows you to meet students where they are by explaining concepts in a way that wilstick with them. Some methods to try include:

- Verbal behavior training (milestone assessment & placement)
- Direct instruction (model, lead, test, retest)
- Visual schedules (real photos to demonstrate steps to complete an activity)

## HAVE A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR **EVIDENCE-BASED** SOLUTIONS!

[DOWNLOAD A PREVIEW PACKET](#)



The effectiveness of our approaches are well-documented, which is why all our Project Discovery Adapted curriculum comes with hands-on materials, video modeling, and real-life pictures!

### *Tip of the Day:* PERCENTAGE GRAPHS & PARENTS

One great way to share results with parents is to create a percentage graph that illustrates the level of independence students have gained during various activities based on a rubric. The data points could be based on the amount of prompting a student needed for different tasks over time. This is a great way to illustrate student progress to parents/guardians, IEP teams, or to add to a portfolio.

# WHAT'S IMPORTANT IN YOUR WORLD?



From state alignments and career readiness curriculum to SEL and STEM integrations, we've got you covered! Ask us about our custom solutions for:

- Middle School Gen-Ed Career Exploration
- STEM for Special Ed
- Social & Emotional Learning
- Deaf & Visually Impaired Students
- Special Education Transition
- Autism & Intellectual Disabilities
- Employability Skills
- Independent Living Skills
- Adult Job Training
- Financial Literacy

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR

## LOOKING TO LEARN MORE BEST PRACTICES?

*Sit back, relax, and watch our past  
Webinar Wednesdays at home.*

WATCH NOW



## THE END OF THE YEAR JUST GOT BETTER!

Take advantage of these end-of-year specials and get a head start on planning for fall. Learn more about each special by opening the flyers!

**YOU PICK 8**

*Adapted Titles*

**BUILD YOUR PERSONALIZED  
CAREER EXPLORATION PROGRAM!**

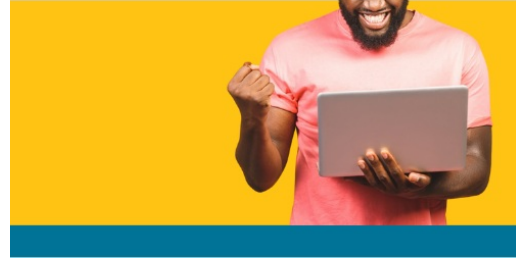
**LIMITED  
TIME  
ONLY**



**OPEN FLYER**

**Get A Year of  
Student Fees, On Us!**

**iAchieve.**



**OPEN FLYER**

Ready to get started? Schedule a discovery call today to determine which solution is right for you!

**LET'S GO!**

## DID YOU HEAR THE NEWS?



**Bringing Braille Fun  
Home: LEGO® Braille  
Bricks on Sale for the  
First Time**

**READ MORE**



**Sibling Tik Tok Duo  
Breaks Down  
Stereotypes of Autism  
Today Show**

**WATCH NOW**



**Entrepreneur Couple  
Solving the Disability  
Unemployment Problem**

**WATCH NOW**

*\*as played during the  
Webinar Wednesday*

# LIKE, FOLLOW, RETWEET, REPEAT!



Education Associates | P.O. Box 23308, Louisville, KY 40223

[Unsubscribe](#) [admin@educationassociates.com](mailto:admin@educationassociates.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [timothyhagan@educationassociates.com](mailto:timothyhagan@educationassociates.com)