

# Present information in different ways to support access and understanding

A suggestion for implementing the strategy 'Helpful classroom strategies years 1-8' from the Guide: [Down syndrome and learning](#)

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## **Includes:**

- Offer text-to-speech tools
- Support understanding with visuals
- Give instructions in close proximity
- Take a multi-sensory approach
- Find videos with closed captions

Inclusive Education

From

Guide: [Down syndrome and learning](#)

Strategy: [Helpful classroom strategies years 1-8](#)

Suggestion: [Present information in different ways to support access and understanding](#)

Date

18 June 2026

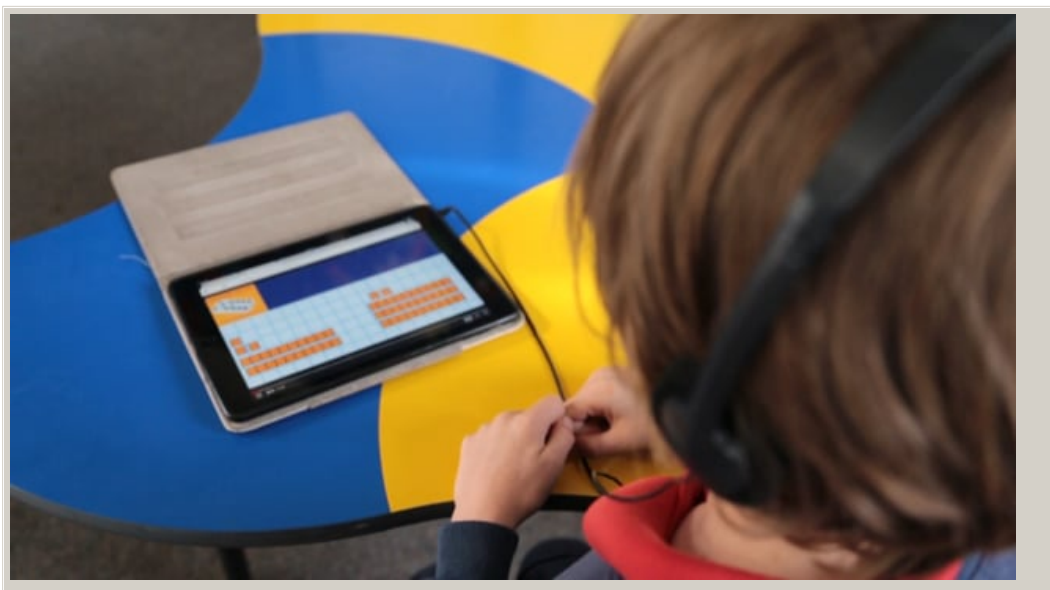
Link

[inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/down-syndrome-and-learning/present-information-in-different-ways-to-support-access-and-understanding](http://inclusive.tki.org.nz/guides/down-syndrome-and-learning/present-information-in-different-ways-to-support-access-and-understanding)

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## Offer text-to-speech tools

Offer text-to-speech tools to read text aloud and support comprehension. Free text-to-speech tools are available across all computer operating systems.



Video hosted on Vimeo <http://vimeo.com/105617225>

Closed Captions

Source:

<https://vimeo.com/105617225?p=1s>

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## Support understanding with visuals

Offer information in more than one way.

Use symbols and graphics to illustrate key concepts.

Keep the layout clean and uncluttered.

Consider apps such as [Routinery](#).



Video hosted on Youtube <http://youtu.be/yUyOfkTE4aY>

Closed Captions

Source:

[Visual Supports](#)

<https://youtu.be/yUyOfkTE4aY>

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## Give instructions in close proximity



Source:

Ministry of Education | Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga

[View full image \(657 KB\)](#)

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## Take a multi-sensory approach

Offer learners multiple opportunities to build understanding using all their senses.

- ✓ Offer real experiences, physical activity, and manipulables to support understanding.
- ✓ Support text and spoken information with photos, graphics, audio, and video.
- ✓ Present digital text rather than printed text so that ākonga can personalise it by enlarging it or listening to it.
- ✓ Use online tools such as Google Slides or blogs to bring multimedia together, so learners have content options presented in different media all in one place (for example, a YouTube video, a graphic and some text).
- ✓ Make instructions, demonstrations, or key content rewindable and accessible 24/7.

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## Find videos with closed captions

How to find YouTube videos with closed captions using a laptop or desktop computer.

- ✓ Search for YouTube and open the home page.
- ✓ Type search subject (for example “frogs”) into YouTube search bar and press return key.
- ✓ On left of screen, click the tab called “Filters” and a menu box will open.
- ✓ Select “subtitles/CC” under the Features list.
- ✓ Select a video from the selection of filtered videos presented by YouTube.
- ✓ Watch the selected video with the closed captions turned on to check for accuracy before sharing with learners.
- ✓ Share closed captioned video with ākongā.

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