

# The *Paraeducator* Press

Helping Students Shine

## Do you know about the Virginia Department of Education's T/TAC Online web site?

T/TAC Online is a web-based community linking people and resources to help students with learning challenges, particularly those with disabilities. The web site includes: Virginia Assessment information, SOL Enhanced Scope and Sequence Plus (Plus = ideas for differentiating instruction) lesson plans, Resources, Events and Online Training opportunities, including a "Paraeducator Training" series. These resources are available to you at any time at: [www.ttaconline.org](http://www.ttaconline.org).

Once on the T/TAC Online site ([www.ttaconline.org](http://www.ttaconline.org)), click on your region on the Virginia map. The "Welcome!" page includes the "Check It Out!" box, which changes frequently and highlights new items or upcoming events. This site is organized by the colored tabs at the top of the page.

The **SOL Enhanced Scope and Sequence Plus** tab  
The SOL Enhanced tab will allow you to search for the Standard(s) you are currently focusing on with your students AND find lessons that include a variety of options for differentiated activities. This section also has content-related Instructional Strategies that could be helpful when working with students who have specific learning needs.

Steps to search the SOL ESS+ section:

- Click on SOL Enhanced (at the top)
- Click on Search SOL+ Lessons (left margin)
- At Option 1- choose a subject area and choose a grade/course - click Go
- Click on any SOL standard and click Submit (at bottom of page)
- Choose from the lessons listed for the standard
- Click on Word or PDF format to download lesson

The **Resources** tab

Another section that may interest you is **Resources**. Once in that section, you will see "New Resources in the Spotlight," which are the recently posted resources. By scrolling down the list, you can review the descriptions,

decide on a particular resource of interest, and click it when the cursor highlights your choice.

You can search this section by category or by disability. For example, if you choose the category "Assistive Technology," you will be provided a plethora of web site resources on Assistive Technology. Click on the highlighted web site link to go directly to the site described. If you don't want to pick a category or a disability, you can click on "View All" to see a listing of all of the resources in alphabetical order.

Have fun and review all that is available to you at [www.ttaconline.org](http://www.ttaconline.org). You may want to participate in some online training or check out upcoming state and national events. The site is constantly updated and additional resources added on a regular basis. If you would like to offer feedback on your use of T/TAC Online, let us hear from you!

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## Paraeducators:

There are still openings for the paraprofessional strand at the 2008 Content Academy for Pre-K Early Childhood Special Education, June 23-27 at James Madison University.

The Paraprofessional Strand of this academy will provide participants with an overview of disabilities, instruction in communication and language development, personal-social development and positive behavior supports, oral motor-feeding development, positioning and handling, and an overview of special education law and regulations.

To register, go to [www.ttaconline.org](http://www.ttaconline.org), click on the **Events tab**, click on **Month** (*top margin*) and click on **June** (*on left margin*).