

# Monthly Instructional Guide Checklist

October

Texas SPED Support's Monthly Instructional Guides help special education teachers in self-contained classrooms navigate the school year. Each month contains relevant content and resources. For more in-depth information on each checklist item, please visit the [October Monthly Instructional Guide](#).

**This month's focus is on teaching with rigor.** The content aligns with Quality Indicator I: Alignment with State Standards and Quality Indicator IV: Differentiated Instruction on the [Rubric of Effective Practices for Students with Complex Access Needs](#) and the [Administrator Companion Document to the Rubric of Effective Practices for Students with Complex Access Needs](#).

- ☐ Aim for autonomy and independence.
  - Avoid overhelping.
  - Engage learners.
- ☐ Let data drive instruction.
  - Review data regularly.
  - Teach missing skills through explicit instruction.
  - Encourage generalization of skills.
  - Fade supports.
- ☐ Connect to the curriculum.
  - Understand prerequisite skills.
  - Meet learners where they are.
  - Make learning meaningful.

**Final Thought:** Have high expectations.

For more resources in supporting students with complex access needs, go to [spedsupport.tea.texas.gov](https://spedsupport.tea.texas.gov).