

some Supportive Responses to inattentiveness

- ✓ Chunk large assignments into smaller steps; give a deadline at each step; prioritize tasks
- ✓ Give 1 or 2 instructions at a time; ask student to repeat to check for understanding
- ✓ Teach words that describe emotions
- ✓ Offer praise for on-task behaviour
- ✓ Provide frequent movement breaks
- ✓ Modulate voice when speaking
- ✓ Allow time to process after a question
- ✓ Combine oral instructions with written and visual
- ✓ Explicitly teach social skills; organizational skills
- ✓ Reduce stimuli (e.g. turn down lights, reduce noise or offer noise-cancelling headphones, limit paper)
- ✓ Develop a non-verbal cueing strategy to let student know when he's off task (e.g. post-it on desk)
- ✓ Utilize writing or voice recognition software
- ✓ Highlight or expose only important information on a page (e.g. keep excess text covered)
- ✓ Use a timer to build stamina and remain on task
- ✓ Ensure that expectations are clear and visible
- ✓ Use memory aids such as mnemonics
- ✓ Utilize checklists, visual schedules to stay organized

