

The ***National Institute for Learning Development (NILD)*** is a nonprofit organization dedicated to training educators to work with children and adults with learning difficulties through an individualized program of educational therapy. NILD defines educational therapy as “an intervention that first determines a student’s patterns of learning strengths and weaknesses and then provides intense instruction in a one-to-one setting to remediate the identified educational weaknesses.” NILD Educational Therapy® focuses primarily on basic academic skills such as reading, spelling, written expression and mathematics. Improved skills are developed to achieve grade-level academic proficiency using a combination of direct instruction and mediated-learning strategies.

NILD Educational Therapy® includes 24 different techniques from which the educational therapist chooses specific techniques that will most appropriately meet the academic and cognitive processing needs of individual students. A typical NILD therapy session usually includes 8-12 techniques. Several core techniques that encourage strategy development, self-questioning, and oral language proficiency within the framework of learning basic skills in primary academics have been found to be the most useful (Hopkins, 1996).

NILD is offered only to students who, after a complete battery of testing, meet the stringent parameters to be successful with this focused therapy intervention.