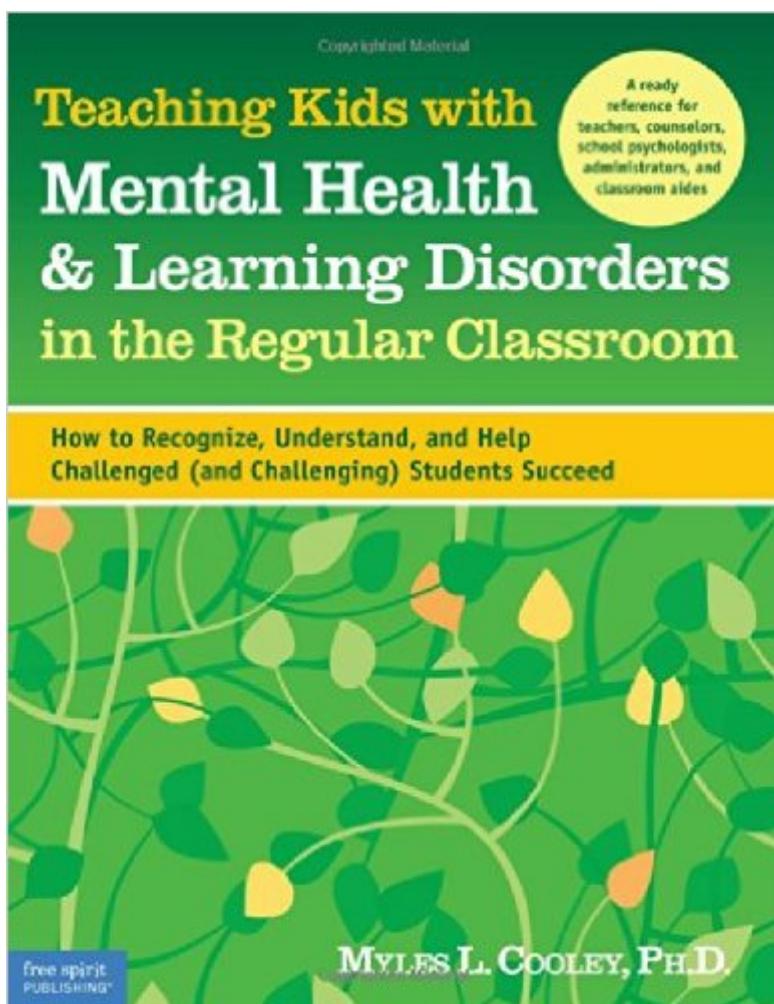


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# Teaching Kids With Mental Health & Learning Disorders In The Regular Classroom: How To Recognize, Understand, And Help Challenged (and Challenging) Students Succeed



## **Synopsis**

Written for all classroom teachers, this book helps you learn about a wide variety of mental health disorders and learning problems, including how to recognize the symptoms, respond appropriately, and meet students' learning needs. Written by a clinical psychologist, this user-friendly, jargon-free guide describes mental health and learning disorders often observed in schoolchildren, explains how each might be exhibited in the classroom, and offers expert suggestions on what to do (and sometimes what not to do).

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Free Spirit Publishing (April 15, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1575422425

ISBN-13: 978-1575422428

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.4 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #234,897 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 inÂ  Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Special Education > Mentally Disabled #180 inÂ  Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Special Education > Learning Disabled #709 inÂ  Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Counseling

Age Range: 1 - 1 year

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 12

## **Customer Reviews**

This book is written in a very user-friendly format for educators. Over twenty mental health and learning disorders are described in this book including symptoms, behaviors, classroom strategies, and professional treatments. Based on current research and educational trends, this is the perfect book to bring to IEP and Child Study meetings for practical and concise interventions. Teachers and counselors will not only find plenty of ideas on how to motivate their students with learning and mental health disorders but also how to apply effective teaching strategies with all students. As a school counselor who spends a great deal of time meeting with teachers and parents, this book has spent very little time on my bookshelf. A great tool!

A practicing psychologist for more than 30 years who evaluates and treats children, adolescents and adults for a variety of problems, Myles L. Cooley also draws upon his experience and expertise as a consultant to schools and as a presenter of educational programs to educators, mental health professionals, physicians, and parents in "Teaching Kids With Mental Health & Learning Disorders In The Regular Classroom". This basic and very strongly recommended instruction manual and guidebook is specifically designed to help classroom teachers learn how to recognize, understand and help challenged (and often challenging) students to learn and succeed academically. A compendium of practical and proven strategies educators can use when teaching and supporting students who exhibit mental health problems and learning disorder issues, "Teaching Kids With Mental Health & Learning Disorders In The Regular Classroom" will also alert teachers as to what behavior and symptoms to look for in troubled students, provide ideas for fostering social development in these children, and how best to motivate all students to learn. Of special note is the discussion of the latest approach to intervention procedures, including Response to Intervention (RTI).

I'm starting to think maybe the greatest threat to education in the United States is teacher burnout. I don't think it's the children causing "teacher exodus." Yes, it's true more and more classrooms each year are full of needy and challenging students. There are a lot of factors that go into burnout but blaming the children is not one of them. From my own personal experience as a school counselor, there seems to be a lack of strong preparation, training, and resources for educators in the area of mental health and learning disorders. Teaching Kids with Mental Health and Learning Disorders in the Regular Classroom is definitely part of the remedy to this problem. When I discovered this resource, I immediately started putting it to good use. Have you ever been in a student meeting where it feels like the "team" is not really on the same page? The intention to help the student is there, but the meeting gets off course or doesn't take a course. It can sometimes feel like there is a hush hushness about the disorder, confusion about the diagnosis, the "experts" are using different jargon that you don't understand, or there is too much time being spent on formalities like paperwork. It can feel very compartmentalized. I would highly recommend educators use this resource to relieve these problems so you can get to work on helping the student! It's an empowering tool that I absolutely love. Each mental health and learning disorder is described concretely (about 3 paragraphs), provides behavior and symptoms to look for, and suggests easy classroom strategies and interventions to try. Educators work in busy and demanding jobs so tools that don't waste time are a must. When the words "Receptive and Expressive Language Disorder"

get thrown around - people can get lost. It's great for giving a refresher about a disorder or disability. You don't need an intimidating 700 page psychiatric manual. But a practical resource like this guide can be a life saver. How many times have you been required to implement a plan for a student? It can be a frustrating process if you are under prepared. Use *Teaching Kids with Mental Health and Learning Disorders in the Regular Classroom* as part of your foundation for building the plan. A comment from a teacher after we read through the information on Tic Disorders, "That was great insight for the team." This is a solid resource and I've noticed it helps my team feel more optimistic and supported. If you have a professional learning library in your school, encourage your administrator to purchase a copy for your staff. It's definitely nice to have my own copy but it's not something to covet, make sure to share it with your colleagues when you see a need arise. A final thought, this guide needs to be part of educator curriculums in graduate schools. I just can't stress this enough. If we want to set kids up for success, well lets set the teachers up first!

This is the best book I've found on mental health issues I'm facing in my classroom. Because there is no money for teacher training, I'm having to train myself in ways to help students and this book has really been instrumental in giving me an insight in how to handle difficult situations. I highly recommend it to veteran teachers like me (25 years) and new teachers like my daughter in her first year.

Great resource!

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