

## *Good Resources to know about*

### EDUCATION

1. ABC Signing Kids [abcsigningkids.weebly.com/](http://abcsigningkids.weebly.com/)  
Books, flashcards, dvd's, videos that make learning to use sign language easy and fun
2. Down Syndrome Ed [dseusa.org/](http://dseusa.org/)  
If you don't already know about DS Ed, it is worth checking out. Our speaker Sue Buckley is part of DS Ed, to give an idea of the caliber of this organization. Information, research, materials for purchase, and programs you can use for teaching reading and language.
3. Games for Special Needs [gamesforspecialneeds.com/](http://gamesforspecialneeds.com/)  
Hands-on games and manipulatives created by therapists, professionals and parents of children with special needs.
4. High Noon Books [HighNoonBooks.com](http://HighNoonBooks.com)  
Chapter books that are high-interest for lower level readers; books divided into several reading levels. Large variety of topics.
5. National Catholic Board on Full Inclusion [fullinclusionforcatholicschools.org/](http://fullinclusionforcatholicschools.org/)  
Good general information on inclusion.
6. Special Reads for Special Needs [specialreads.com/](http://specialreads.com/)  
A reading program for all ages including supplies that can be used by parents or in school. "High appeal to the hearts and funny bones of individuals with DS....brain-friendly."
7. The TV Teacher [thetvteacher.com/](http://thetvteacher.com/)  
Award-winning handwriting programs specially designed for special needs. Video-modeling approach.

### HEALTH & WELLNESS

1. Specs 4 Us [specs4us.com/](http://specs4us.com/)  
Eyeglasses designed to accommodate the unique facial features of those w. DS There is an optometrist location in Anchorage and in Eagle River ( Optical Matchmakers-Home Optics) that carries Specs4Us.
2. TalkTools [talktools.com/](http://talktools.com/)  
Education for parents and speech therapists on feeding skills and speech clarity; supplies for eating and oral sensory exploration.
3. ACCESS ALASKA (907) 248.4777  
Recycled durable medical equipment loan closet.
4. DDS SafetyNet [ddssafety.net/](http://ddssafety.net/)  
Website full of tools that self-advocates can use for better health and safety

## POST SECONDARY EDUCATION / OUT-OF-STATE LIVING

1. Shepherd's College (Wisconsin) [shepherdscollege.edu/](http://shepherdscollege.edu/)  
Prepares individuals with IDD to reach appropriate independence.
2. ClemsonLife (Clemson University, South Carolina) [clemson.edu/education/culife/](http://clemson.edu/education/culife/)  
Post secondary experience for persons w. IDD on a college campus. Career exploration and preparation.
3. Moving Forward Towards Independence (California) [moving-forward.org/](http://moving-forward.org/)  
Transitional and independent living support, supporting the growth of the whole person in a community setting.
4. Stewart Home and School (Kentucky) [stewarhome.com/](http://stewarhome.com/)
5. Pathfinder Village (New York) [pathfindervillage.org](http://pathfindervillage.org)  
Independence, friendship, belonging for men and women with DS. Short term and long term programs.
6. Ruby's Rainbow [rubysrainbow.org/](http://rubysrainbow.org/)  
Scholarships to adults with DS seeking postsecondary education, enrichment, or vocational classes.

## GENERAL SUPPORT

1. DS Diagnosis Network. [dsdiagnosisnetwork.org/](http://dsdiagnosisnetwork.org/)  
Supports new and expectant parents, pre-natal to age 3. On-line support groups.
2. DS Information Alliance [downsyndromeinfo.org/](http://downsyndromeinfo.org/)  
Articles on variety of topics, for parents and professionals; includes medical, educational, research and law issues.
3. The DS-AUTISM Connection [ds-asd-connection.org](http://ds-asd-connection.org)  
education, support, inspiration. On-line newsletter.
4. ATLA = Assistive Technology of Alaska [atlaak.org](http://atlaak.org)  
Helps families make informed decisions about assistive technology. Information, demonstrations, short-term loans.
5. Alaska Long-Term Care Ombudsman [akoltco.org](http://akoltco.org) 1-800-730-6393 (907) 334-4480  
Assists older Alaskans in resolving issues and concerns regarding living facility, guardianship, or services received.
6. Directory for Older Alaskans 276-1059 1-800-478-1059  
List of assisted living homes throughout Alaska. Also phone numbers of state agencies such as Medicaid, Dept. of Health & Social Services, SSI, etc.
7. Trips, Inc. [tripsinc.com/](http://tripsinc.com/)  
Special Adventures of all-inclusive vacation packages for adults (18 & over).

