

Growing Good Communicators: Empowering Students with Sensory and Multiple Disabilities

A Full-Day Workshop: February 6, 2018 - 9:00 am-4:00 pm

About the presenter:



Mildred (Millie) J. Smith is a private consultant who works with students who have visual and multiple impairments. Since her retirement from the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (TSBVI), Millie conducts workshops, gives private consultations, and is a respected author/consultant to the American Printing House for the Blind (APH). After teaching high school English for 2 years, Millie returned to school and completed her Master of Education in Visual Impairment and Emotional Disturbance from the University of Texas at Austin. Her graduate internship was working as a specialist in school programs for emotionally disturbed students at Children's Psychiatric Hospital at Austin.

Like many vision teachers, Millie started out as an itinerant teacher of students with visual impairments, working in the Dallas Independent School District. Millie then returned to Austin and began teaching at TSBVI. During her 27 years at TSBVI, she worked as a resource teacher, a classroom teacher, and as an outreach teacher trainer. She has taught classes focusing on visual problems of exceptional children at the University of Texas at Austin and served on the Advisory Board of the Special Education Department, Program for the Visually Handicapped.

Millie has shared her experience and knowledge with families and teachers by writing numerous articles and through her books, *Teaching Students with Visual and Multiple Impairments: A Resource Guide* (1996), co-authored with Nancy Levack and published by TSBVI; and the *Sensory Learning Kit* (2005) and *SAM: Symbols and Meaning* (2012), both published and manufactured by APH. Millie authored the chapter titled, *Sensory Efficiency*, in *ECC Essentials: Teaching the Expanded Core Curriculum to Students with Visual Impairments* (2014) by AFB Press.

Millie has been honored and recognized by her peers as the 2000 co-recipient of the AER Bledsoe Award for Teaching Students with Visual and Multiple Impairments, the 2001 and 2013 recipient of the AER Division 3 Virginia Sowell Award, and is the 2007 and 2013 recipient of the APH Virgil Zickel Award.

More from Millie:

- <http://www.familyconnect.org/info/education/expanded-core-curriculum/millie-smiths-advice-on-communication-skills-for-children-with-visual-and-multiple-disabilities/134>
- <http://www.perkinselearning.org/earn-credits/instructors/millie-smith>
- <http://www.perkins.org/stories/ask-the-expert-millie-smith-shares-strategies-for-educating-children-with-severe>

This workshop is hosted by CEC's Division on Visual Impairment and Deafblindness.



Special thanks to our workshop sponsor, The American Printing House for the Blind.

