

# Visual Strategies™ ... The Keys for Improving Communication, Behaviour & Social Skills

Linda Hodgdon, M.Ed., CCC-SLP  
Author of the International Best-Seller  
*Visual Strategies for Improving Communication*

Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008

8:30 am – 3:30 pm



## Linda Hodgdon says:

*Give me just one day... and I will show you everything you **absolutely, positively** need to know to use VISUAL STRATEGIES successfully... for practical solutions to challenging problems... overcoming difficult situations... building meaningful relationships... & more...*

### REGISTER TODAY

(space is limited)

Please see the back page for registration information.

St. Patrick's Elementary School  
2850 Quebec St., Vancouver, BC.  
(on the corner of Main St. and 12<sup>th</sup> Ave.)



Free parking available behind the school.



Sponsored by the BC Council for Exceptional Children  
and the Catholic Independent Schools Vancouver  
Archdiocese



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## What are Visual Strategies?

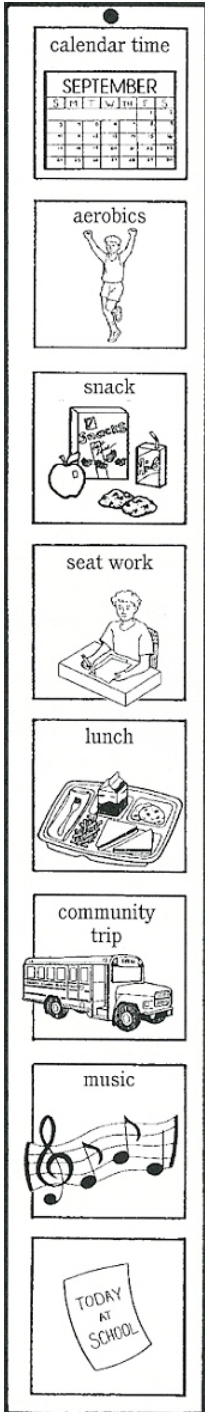
All types of people benefit from using visual strategies. Do you use a day planner or a calendar or write notes to yourself to help you remember? Then you use visual strategies. All students can benefit from having visual supports to help them remember and understand. Using visual supports can be particularly helpful for students with special learning difficulties such as communication, behaviour, learning challenges or other special needs.

## Why Visual Strategies?

Communication breakdowns can be a "root" cause of problems in social interaction, educational performance, and behavior. It is not unusual for students who experience severe communication disorders to demonstrate fragmented skills and inconsistent performance. Visual strategies support students' attempts to understand and interpret information.

For many students with communication challenges, the use of visually supported communication is more effective and efficient than just talking to them. Visual tools assist students in processing language, organizing their thinking, remembering information and many other skills necessary to participate effectively. This focus leads to greater comprehension, which leads to greater involvement and participation, which ultimately leads to more effective expression. The visual tools support communication by mediating the communication process between students and the rest of their world.

Expanding the use of visual strategies is a needed dimension in educational programming. Many people may already use a few visual strategies; few people use many of them. Introducing these concepts results in positive, frequently dramatic changes in student performance. Since its initial development, these techniques have generated substantial enthusiasm among professionals working with students in a variety of settings and with a variety of learning needs.



# Visual Strategies™ ...The Keys for Improving Communication, Behaviour & Social Skills

**Linda Hodgdon, M.Ed., CCC-SLP** is a Speech Pathologist who is internationally known as a pioneer in developing the use of visual strategies to support communication for students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. She is the author of *Visual Strategies for Improving Communication* and *Solving Behaviors in Autism*. Considered essential resources for professionals, these books are packed with practical, effective ideas for improving communication and behavior.

A powerful and entertaining presenter, Linda shares practical information that inspires program participants to accomplish new goals with students.

Linda Hodgdon is the Director of Cornerstone Communication Center, an organization that provides consultation, training, and professional development with the goal of improving communication.

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## Who Should Attend?

- All teachers
- Paraeducators
- Administrators
- Speech-Language Pathologists
- Occupational Therapists
- Psychologists
- Parents
- Other interested individuals

## Participants will learn to:

- Identify significant factors in student learning and functioning style that affect communication
- Informally assess the student's communication strengths and challenges
- Recognize situations where communication breakdowns can affect the student's understanding, behavior and participation
- Use the *Guide for Assessing Behavior Situations* to identify causes of behavior problems
- Develop visual tools to support communication, behavior & social skills
- Use specific visual supports that have significantly improved student participation and behavior

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## About British Columbia Council for Exceptional Children

Since its inception, BC CEC has advocated for exceptional students – those with disabilities and special challenges and those with gifts and talents. BC CEC is committed to those who work with exceptional students - educators, support personnel and parents - recognizing that these dedicated people need the resources, tools and professional opportunities to perform their jobs well. BC CEC provides educational workshops and conferences on leading best practices for both the educator and the parent.

Our highlight each year is the celebration of achievements of exceptional students in BC ~ Our YES I CAN! Awards Celebration. BC CEC is thrilled to be able to share in the joy and happiness of the families celebrating the accomplishments of their children or youth with exceptionalities.

For more information about Council of Exceptional Children and how to join and be part of one of the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, students with disabilities, and/or the gifted, check out the Council for Exceptional Children website at [www.cec.sped.org](http://www.cec.sped.org)

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## AGENDA

Monday, March 10, 2008

8:00-8:30 am	<i>Registration</i>
8:30-10:00 am	<b>Workshop Session 1</b>
10:00-10:15 am	<i>Break</i>
10:15-12:00 am	<b>Workshop Session 2</b>
12:00-1:00 pm	<i>Lunch</i>
1:00-1:50 pm	<b>Workshop Session 3</b>
1:50-2:05 pm	<i>Break</i>
2:05-3:30 pm	<b>Workshop Session 4</b>

## General Information

**Fee** – The fee for the workshop is \$150.00. Fee includes program, lunch and refreshments, Certificate of Attendance. (Special rates apply to CEC members.)

**Lunch** – Lunch will be provided along with refreshments at the breaks.

**Refund policy** – If you register but cannot attend, you may transfer your registration to someone else, or request a refund. Cancellations with refunds (less a \$30.00 processing fee) can be made until **Monday, March 3, 2008**. Cancellations can be made by emailing to [info@bccec.org](mailto:info@bccec.org).

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## Visual Strategies™ ... The Keys for Improving Communication, Behaviour & Social Skills

Registration Form - **Registration deadline: March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

- |   |          |   |  |
|---|----------|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> CEC members          | \$ 95.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Non CEC members    | \$150.00                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CEC students members | \$ 50.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> Full time students | \$100.00<br>( includes CEC student membership) |

Please make cheques payable to **BC CEC** and mail along with this registration form to:  
BC CEC, 9540 Diamond Road, Richmond, BC. V7E 1P6

CEC #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Professional Role: \_\_\_\_\_ Organization: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: hm: \_\_\_\_\_ wk: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(please print clearly)

Any questions, contact Bev McRae at [info@bccec.org](mailto:info@bccec.org)