Specially Designed Instruction

Special education refers to specially designed instruction that will meet the unique needs of the student with a disability and enable the student to meet the goals defined on his/her IEP. Specially designed instruction means instruction that has been adapted in its content (curriculum), methodology (instructional strategies), or delivery (how will the content and instruction be delivered). This instruction is specially designed to address the unique needs of the student that result from the student’s disability so that the student can be involved and make progress in the general education curriculum, can participate in extracurricular and other nonacademic activities, and can be educated and participate with other children with disabilities and with nondisabled children. It includes instruction conducted in the classroom, in the home, in hospitals and institutions, and in other settings. Also included within the definition of specially designed instruction is instruction in physical education, speech language pathology services for children through the age of 8 (up to the student’s ninth birthday), travel training, and vocational education. Special education services provided to the student with a disability should be based on peer-reviewed research to the extent practicable.

In essence, adapting as appropriate to the needs of the child the content; methodology and delivery of instruction.