



# American Music Therapy Association, Inc.

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## **MUSIC THERAPY IN SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Music Therapy is considered a related service under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

When music therapy is deemed necessary to assist a child to benefit from his/her special education, goals are documented on the Individual Education Plan (IEP) as a related service intervention.

Music therapy can be an integral component in helping the child with special needs attain educational goals identified by his/her IEP team.

Music therapy can offer direct or consultant services as determined by the individual needs of the child.

Music therapists can support special education classroom teachers by providing effective ways to incorporate music into their academic curriculum.

Music therapy involvement can stimulate attention and increase motivation to participate more fully in other aspects of the educational setting.

Music therapy interventions apply the inherent order of music to set behavioral expectations, provide reassurance, and maintain structure for children with special needs.

Music therapy can adapt strategies to encourage a child's participation in the least restrictive environment.