

Motivation • Organization • 21st Century Skills • ADHD • LD • At-Risk • RTI • AYP

Upper Elementary • Middle School • High School • College





The Traditional Method for Organizing Papers Looks Like This...



...a total of 22 steps on the BRAIN Circuit!

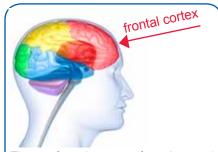
The SOAR® System for Organizing Papers Looks Like This...



...only FIVE steps on the BRAIN Circuit! This is just one example that illustrates the extreme efficiency and effectiveness of SOAR®.

SOAR® Is Student-Friendly Because It Is "Brain Friendly!"

SOAR® is built according to the BRAIN Circuit model; this model very simply illustrates what it takes to make learning and organizing tasks brain-friendly:



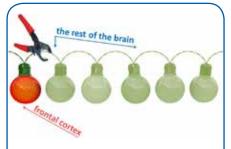
The prefrontal cortex (frontal cortex) is the section of our brain that processes and organizes all incoming information from our five senses and feelings; it then determines how we respond to that information and sends signals to the rest of the brain.

Compared to the rest of the brain, the frontal cortex has a limited supply of power.



The frontal cortex communicates with the rest of the brain through electrical wires called neurons. We have billions of neuron connections in our brain, but any one of these connections is just like a very familiar circuit—a string of party lights.

Just like any other circuit, neuron circuits connect with electrical power.



This string of lights is a simple model for the neuron connections in our brain. The first bulb is the frontal cortex, running the show and sending signals to the back of the brain. The fewer steps it must process, the less prone it is to interruptions and "power outages"; making it easier for the brain to organize and learn new information.

Fewer steps = more efficient use of brain energy!

The BRAIN Circuit model applies to everyone...

It is especially important for students with ADHD and learning disabilities! (See page 13.)







Study Skills Prepare Students for College!

Ohio State University published results in 2009 from a long-term study on the impact of teaching study skills to college freshman:

45% = Increased likelihood that a "struggling" high school student will graduate from college if they take a study skills course.

600% = Increased likelihood that "average" high school students will continue in college, if they take a study skills course!



500 CEOs Determine: Study Skills Are 75% of Career Success!

The Carnegie Melon Foundation surveyed 500 CEOs and determined that 75% of long-term career success depends on "soft skills," or "study skills" as we call them in education. Only 25% of career success depends on technical knowledge.

Career Success: 75% Soft Skills

> 25% **Technical** Skills

Source: Carnegie Melon Foundation

All those years in K-college only contribute to one-fourth of the equation for career success; study skills address the remaining three-fourths!

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Endorsed by Dr. Ned Hallowell!

Leading ADHD & Human Development expert, co-author of best-selling book, Driven to Distraction



Ned Hallowell, M.D., Ed.D. and Susan Kruger, M.Ed. "Susan Kruger made getting organized simple, which is the only way kids will stick with it, and she's made it fun, which is a minor miracle!" - Dr. Hallowell







Me, as a student... always struggling!



Graduating from college... with a 3.9 GPA!



Two of my star students from my days as a classroom teacher.

Our Strategies Work Because We've "Been There!"

Susan Kruger - Founder, Author, and President of SOAR® Learning, Inc.



I always struggled in school, from K-12th grade. I learned study skills as I entered college, but most of the strategies were complex and hard to remember. In desperation, I focused on a few and simplified them hoping something would work. To my utter surprise, they did! I instantly earned a 3.9 GPA during my first semester and maintained that GPA through graduation. Once I knew *how* to learn, those grades were much easier to earn than my mediocre grades in high school.

Suddenly, my confidence skyrocketed--and so did my motivation! I have now been a certified teacher and learning specialist, specializing in brain-based learning, for nearly twenty years.

Brian Woodcock – Vice-President and "Director of Fun" at SOAR® Learning, Inc.



I never really struggled in school, but I spent hours studying! I am a nationally board-certified teacher and spent over ten years teaching vocational education. Through Susan, my wife, I learned the value of applying strategy to school and passed that along to my students. I believe in working hard, but "hard work" should be gratifying, not dreadful. It's exciting to help students discover that "success" is truly about working smarter, not harder.

As the Vice-President of SOAR®, I do a bit of everything, but I added "Director of Fun" to my title as a reminder to myself to keep our work in the "Green Zone." (See page 5.)

Chrystal Boyl – Operations Manager & Lead Instructor at SOAR® Learning, Inc.



I became a certified teacher--after I gave up on school and dropped out! I quickly learned that there wasn't much future in a minimum wage job. After one semester, I returned to school, doubled-up on credits, and graduated with my class. Those extra classes put the pressure on me and forced me to get organized. I finally tried the assignment planners provided by my high school. (No one ever taught us what to do with them; we thought they were only for bathroom passes!)

I was able to keep track of due dates and test dates so well that I earned straight As! Obviously, I believe whole-heartedly in the skills we teach because they made such a difference in my life.

We all have unique experiences, but we are all connected through our dedication to improve the process of learning for all students!







Launching SOAR Learning, Inc.



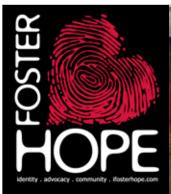
It's been a battle for both of us, but my son is overcoming ADHD and dyslexia!



My family

We Give Back!

SOAR® supports Foster Hope, an organization dedicated to supporting the needs of foster children. In addition to financial support, we provide skills training for young adults aging out of the foster system.





Many members of the SOAR® team joined us at Foster Hope's annual fundraiser, a murder mystery dinner. (Brian did it!)

We take our work seriously, but we try not to take ourselves too seriously!

Foster Hope Has "SOAR®" Roots!



We are so very proud to say that Ginelle Barry, founder of Foster Hope, was our very first employee! Ginelle and her husband Tennyson (pictured here with Brian and Susan of SOAR®) work *tirelessly* to support foster children.

Learn more about their organization at www.iFosterHope.com!

Keeping It In the "Green Zone"



Emotions are the "on/off" switch to learning! To do their best work, students (and adults) must be in the green zone of emotions.

Around SOAR®, we find simple ways to keep ourselves "emotionally" green. One example is a rule Chrystal set; anyone who spots a squirrel outside our large windows during meetings must yell out "Squirrel!" It's goofy, but it's a little thing that keeps us smiling and working in the Green Zone!

See our popular article, Keep Students in the Green Zone at: www.soarSS.com/TheGreenZone



6th Grader-and 250 of His Peers-Fight for Study Skills!

The Madison Zagle

Thursday, November 15, 2012 A S

Sixth grader asks officials for study skills class

Eagle Reporter

grader, school board members are con- class that would be required for all sidering a study skills class for middle sixth graders school students

Council President Timothy Decature goals, organize, ask questions and Nov 12 why the middle school needs a a student named Susan Kruger in study skills class. He wrote a letter to 1996. The curriculum he said is used Superintendent Matt Eberhardt and in 1,250-plus schools across WMS Principal Tim Taylor to urge the the county and case studies he schools to consider the opportunity of said have found it to be 98.9 having a class. Eberhardt was so percent effective in improving impressed by the "bold" maneuver of student performance the student that he suggested he present the board with the information.

It has been brought to my attenteacher's guide is \$500 and the tion by students, parents and teachers cost for the student workbooks that we are in desperate need of a are \$25 apiece. It would also Timothy Decamastudy skills class for middle school students To be successful in the class- for the program. room and take education to the next "This is not a study hall. It is a class, level it is absolutely necessary to taught by an instructor as an elective," know how to study to prepare for tests Timothy said. resulting in more positive results," Timothy told the school board.

agement, learning styles, writing skills, reading skills, listening skills At the request of a "gutsy" sixth tions would be taught in the elective

Timothy recommended a curricu-Wetsel Middle School Student Jum called SOAR, which stands for set Luker presented to the school board record your progress. It was created by

The course would be covered in one semester. The cost of the mean appointing an instructor

School board members said they liked the idea but the problem was County Education Foundation. He said skills such as note taking. finding the funding for the program.

such as you have described here are important not only in middle school but in high school, college and work and life. Of course the problem is the school day for it. I certainly support moving forward if we can!

Principal Tim Taylor suggested that everyone in sixth grade could take the class as part of the school's rotational elective schedule.

Taylor said it would help "lay the foundation" for the middle school if students took the class in the sixth grade.

Eberhardt said there are many other programs out there such as SOAR and thinks it is a great idea to help children with note-taking and other study skills.

In other matters at the Nov. 12 meeting, school board mem-

bers >> Unanimously approved a supplemental appropriation of \$12,700. The money comes from tuition from a cosmetology student and the Madison

>> Discussed the school calendar daily organization, test preparation.

"I think it is a very good idea," said for 2013-2014. The proposed school teacher pleasing behaviors, time man-

ing Aug. 27, 2013, with a winter break from Dec. 23, 2013-Jan. spring break from March 21, 2014-April 4, 2014, the last day of school always funding and finding a place in ... June 12, 2014 and the graduation day for seniors June 7, 2014. With the new proposed calendar, the Madison County High School students would go to a nine-week grading period similar to the three other schools in the district. The schools have 182 days of direct instruction and 195 days of employee work days. There was

>> Discussed the Madison County High School bleachers expansion project for Eddie Dean Field at Booster park. An advertisement for bids went out in the Richmond Times-Dispatch and Charlottesville's Daily Progress The due date for when the bids have to be in is 2 p.m. Dec. 4. The bids will be read aloud at the school board headquarters off Fairground Road at this time. Recently, Madison County school officials decided to spend \$350,000 to replace some corroded bleachers at Madison County High School's foot-ball field. Additionally, the plan calls for increasing the number of scate and building a new press box. The new bleachers are expected to be in place by June 2013.

Timothy Decatur-Luker is a kid on a mission! He was the first sixth-grader ever elected to the position of student-body president for his 6th-8th grade middle school. After being elected, Timothy discovered that he and his peers could really use help with organization, time-management, notetaking, and other study skills.

Listoir

On his own initiative, Timothy searched the web for answers and found SOAR®! In November, 2012, he approached his School Board, asking to bring SOAR® to his school. However, he ran into the same problem many school districts run into--funding. A few weeks later, Timothy returned to the School Board with a petition signed by 250 of his peers, endorsing Timothy's request for a study skills class!

Alternative Funding–Community Sponsorship!

Despite his peers' support, Timothy's school board remained concerned about the budget. Undeterred, Timothy contacted SOAR® to ask us if we could help him find funding. We suggested a community sponsor. In no time at all, a local business volunteered to cover the curriculum costs for Timothy and his peers.

Timothy and his feverish fight for both his school and study skills are just a small step in a much larger fight in education. Timothy, the entire SOAR® team applauds you for your relentless attitude and salutes you for your efforts.

Get the latest on Timothy and his fight for study skills at www.StudySkills.com/Timothy.



Who Is Using SOAR®?



SOAR® is in 1,500+ schools across the country and 14 nations world-wide! To see a more detailed list visit: www.soarSS.com/soarSU.



We offer a 100% Money-Back Guarantee on the SOAR® Study Skills Program! We are so confident in the power of our program that we offer a no-risk guarantee!

To learn more, visit:

www.StudySkills.com/guarantee

Customer Service Commitment

We resolve to:

- 1) NOT be pushy! We will answer all of your questions fairly and honestly--as we would want someone to do for us.
- 2) Make the lives of our clients easier by answering questions with courtesy, processing orders quickly, and doing anything else we can to provide simple, friendly service.

The Cost of NOT Teaching Study Skills

See a "whiteboard animation" video of this article on our home-page, www.StudySkills.com.

As school budgets are rapidly shrinking, administrators have to determine how to allocate their budgets; they need to get the most "bang for their buck." Managing a school budget is an art form involving hundreds of decisions and balancing dozens of demands.

HOW CAN WE MAKE THE GREATEST IMPACT?

This question is usually the first consideration and a logical place to start. To answer it, we must consider the final objective. Most people agree that the purpose of education is to help young people develop the skills they need to be independent, self-sufficient members of society. Of course, we also hope to arm them with skills for achieving their own sense of personal happiness and success.

HOW DO WE DO THAT?

We can look at what employers need. In 2008, a large survey* of employers in emerging sectors were asked what skills they needed most from their employees, now and in the future. These employers represented fields that are expected to grow significantly in the next 30 years, such as healthcare and technology.

Of the top 57 skills they listed, only four were related to technology or content. The 53 remaining skills were "soft skills" such as:

- Reading comprehension
- · Critical thinking
- · Active learning
- Written expression
- Time management
- Organization
- Active listening
- · Attention to detail
- Learning strategies
- Independence



Employer surveys confirm over and over again: students need study skills to be competitive in a global economy!

The importance of soft skills is further supported by the Stanford Research Institute and Carnegie **Melon Foundation.** After surveying 500 CEOs, they determined that 75% of long-term career success depends on soft skills, while only 25% percent depends on technical knowledge.

Soft skills represent 95% of the top skills in the workplace!*

WHAT, EXACTLY, ARE "SOFT SKILLS"?

Soft skills are the skills needed to be a life-long learner, think critically, make decisions independently and communicate effectively. They are the skills needed in a global economy!

No matter how advanced our society gets, soft skills will always be the key to success because they allow people to effectively learn the hard skills, or technical information, as jobs evolve.





GENERAL INFO

Yet they are largely ignored in education! I recently searched the internet for "soft skills" and combed through 60 results before finding a link to any type of educational institution addressing soft skills in their curriculum; it was a community college! (Delaware Tech & Community College, if you are wondering.)

The first 59 links were mostly newspaper and magazine articles about how desperate the workplace is for these skills! You don't have to look far to see there is a great divide between the content schools are teaching and the skills students need to stay competitive in the 21st century.

We have already lost millions of jobs to other countries, and it will continue if we cannot right the **ship.** As a parent, I am arming my children with these skills because it is clear they are the key to their future success. I am personally frustrated that my children do not learn how to learn or process information, or have opportunities to exercise their critical thinking skills in school.

Education statistics support this concern:

- 30% of US high school students drop out of school.
- 40% of US college students must take at least one remedial course.
- 50% of US college students drop out before completing a degree.
- 66% of US high school honor students fall behind in college.

DO SOFT SKILLS MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN SCHOOL?

Soft skills are the workplace version of "study skills." Research shows that study skills have a dramatic impact on school performance!

Ohio State University published a study in 2009 confirming the dramatic impact study skills have on college graduation rates. According to the study:

45% was the increased likelihood that "struggling" high school students would graduate from college if they took a study skills class.

600% was the increased likelihood that "average" high school students would continue in college if they took a study skills class!

Imagine the impact these skills would have on students if they could learn them earlier than

college. Imagine what these skills will do for these students after college...

You	Can	Do	the N	1ath	١

Subject	Average Cost Per Student*
Math	\$76.92
Language Arts	\$78.48
Science	\$88.29
Social Studies	\$83.29
Average Cost of ONE Core Subject	\$81.75
SOAR® Study Skills	\$17.99

Core subjects are 450% more expensive than Study Skills... Yet, Study Skills improve all content areas!

Core subject prices are based on average price of student texts from three major publishers

WHERE CAN YOU MAKE THE MOST IMPACT WITH YOUR TIME AND MONEY?

Will it be in one subject area that is narrowly focused, or will it be teaching skills that impact all subject areas, improve student performance, and actually prepare students for the workplace?

^{*}Source: Oakland Workforce Devlopment, Skills Needed Report - www.advantageoakland.com



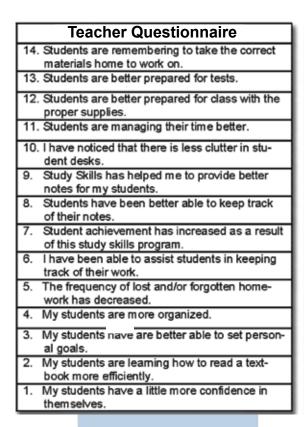


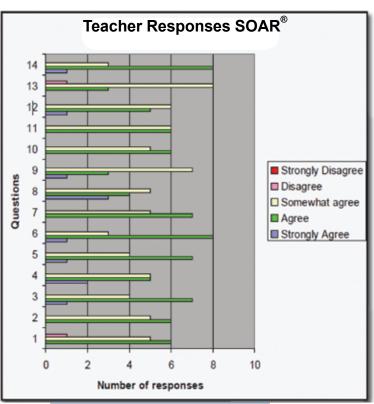


Teachers Declare SOAR® 98.9% Effective in Improving Student Performance!*

Teachers at Woodward Academy, an elementary and middle school in the heart of Detroit, MI, were asked to complete a survey about the effectiveness of the SOAR® system.

NOTE: This survey was NOT solicited by SOAR[®]. The results are displayed below, exactly as we received them from the administration at Woodward Academy. The survey questions are in the left column. The graph on the right displays teacher responses. Additional comments volunteered by the teachers are below.





ADDITIONAL TEACHER COMMENTS:

- It keeps students organized.
- We use it every day; the middle school students are more efficient.
- Students complete planners daily.
- Homework and notes are organized into appropriate sections.
- I check student planners once a week.
- I teach a lesson on organization once weekly.
- Daily planners are now a requirement for homework, as well as goal questions.
- We do a monthly locker clean out.
- It helps with students' organization.
- This makes checking homework easier and quicker!



GENERAL INFO

What Are People Saying About SOAR®?

"Your program helped me change into an A student after struggling with C's and D's. I'm looking forward to using it in college!"

- Chelsea S., 12th grade student

"The feedback received from this book has been awesome! They absolutely loved it."

-Elissa L., 6th grade counselor

"My daughter took your live class this past fall. She really, REALLY enjoyed your class and told me it helped her tremendously at school."

- Mary J., high school parent

"WHY DIDN'T SOMEONE TELL ME **ABOUT THIS BEFORE?"**

- Stephen G., 11th grade student

"Good examples, well-organized and researched, including 'helpful hints' like locker organization, how to talk to teachers, etc."

- Scott B, high school teacher

"SOAR® has been a Godsend to our family!" - Paul K., middle school parent

"Homework is getting done faster and there is much less fighting in our household!"

- Nancy, elementary and middle school parent

"The SOAR system is working! There have been no missed assignments and no problems with homework being left behind."

- Vicki W., teacher

"I feel much more in control when I study now because I know exactly what to do. I don't waste time staring at my textbook, I take better notes in class, and I am better prepared for each class so when I study for a test, it all comes together."

-Katlyn R., 11th grade student

"SOAR" has been very successful. It is a very purposeful, well-constructed program and it has great potential to develop student responsibility, develop student thinking, and develop their autonomy in owning their own schoolwork and taking pride in it."

- Tobi F., middle school principal





SOAR® Research Basis

SOAR[®] was built upon common sense--and a lot of research! The sections of the program are broken down below, along with the educational research upon which the sections were developed.

SOAR® Section 1

How Are You Smart?

Chapter 1 - How Are You Smart?

- Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences 1,2
- Best practices for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder 3

SOAR® Section 2

Set Goals

Chapter 2 – Establish Your Priorities

Chapter 3 – Identify Your Goals

Chapter 4 – Schedule Time to Take Action

Covey's 7 Habits of Highly Effective People 4

SOAR® Section 4

Ask Questions

Chapter 8 – Interacting With Teachers

Chapter 9 – Reading Textbooks

Chapter 10 – Writing Papers

Chapter 11 – Taking & Studying Notes

Chapter 12 - Taking Tests

- Synaptic Plasticity 5
- Visual Learning 6
- Chunking ⁷
- Bloom's Taxonomy of Thinking 8
- Schema Theory of Learning 9
- Graphic Organizers 10,11
- Cornell Note Taking Method 12
- Atkinson-Shiffrin Model 13
- Connectionistic Model 14

SOAR® Section 3

Organize

Chapter 5 – Organize Your Papers

Chapter 6 – Organize Your Space

Chapter 7 – Organize Your Time

• Field testing conducted by SOAR® Study Skills

SOAR® Section 5

Record Your Progress

Chapter 13 – Tracking Your Grades

Chapter 14 - Monitoring Your Goals

Chapter 15 – Recognizing Your Achievements

Behavior Modification 15,16,17,18

A more detailed bibliography, including footnote references, can be found at: www.soarSS.com/researchbasis.

Aligned to 21st Century Skills and ACT WorkKeys®



SOAR® correlates with 21st Century Skills and ACT's WorkKeys®!

A detailed alignment is available at: www.soarSS.com/21stWK



Special Education:

Study Skills Are Essential for Students with ADHD & Learning Disablities!

My son has ADHD and dyslexia. Determining how to help him overcome these challenges was a challenge in itself. However, through my professional training and a LOT of research, I discovered that the most effective ways to help him were a natural part of SOAR® all along.

The key for navigating around ADHD and learning disabilities is to understand a few basic concepts about brain biology; both challenges are simply "wiring" issues in the brain.



The brain has many sections, each responsible for different types of information.



These sections communicate with each other through a massive series of wires called neurons.



Our brains have billions of neuron wires, but any one of those neuron connections is just like this very familiar circuit of party lights!





In ADHD, the frontal cortex sends weak signals to the rest of the brain. The frontal cortex is the "organizing center" of the brain; it orchestrates everything from your five senses and feelings, to the thoughts you generate in response to them. When the frontal cortex sends weak signals those signals never connect--and the power goes out!

Study skills are strategies with very few steps to manage, making the process of learning and organizing *much* less susceptible to "power outages" caused by ADHD.





Learning disabilities are caused by weak neuron signals to isolated sections of the brain. The key to managing learning disabilities is to build new circuits around the weaker sections-much like building a detour. This is why "multi-sensory" interventions are so popular for students with learning disabilities; the additional sensory input is one way build that detour.

Study skills provide another detour; specific learning strategies allow learners to bypass weak sections of the brain quickly. Over time, these strategies provide a scaffold to strengthen neuron pathways throughout the brain.





Motivate Students; Celebrate Their Spirits!

"It is the spirit of the child that can determine the course of human progress and lead it even to a higher form of civilization." – Dr. Maria Montessori

My life was forever touched by a little girl named Kenley. She was the daughter of one of my son's teachers—a teacher who did more for my son than I could ever properly thank her. When an accident killed little Kenley, who was only 18 months old, I struggled to make sense of it. "What was her purpose?" I wondered in grief. Soon, I realized it was her spirit of unconditional love, total emotional honesty, unbridled curiosity, and sense of exploration. Our spirit is all we have when we come into life and all that's left when we go. Kenley didn't have time to be anything but a bundle of spirit.

That spirit—that joy—is essential to inspire motivation. Again and again I meet parents struggling to motivate their children over academics. They tell me, "I'm losing him," or, "I just can't connect with her anymore." Sadly, their children have often struggled so much that they've given up. Parents, teachers, and society all place so much emphasis on academic abilities... often at the *expense* of a child's spirit.

Just the day before I learned of Kenley's death, I heard an interview with Barbara Corcoran, real estate tycoon and an investor "shark" on ABC's show, "Shark Tank." Barbara struggled with dyslexia, bringing home report cards with straight D's. Yet she grew up to start a real estate business with a \$1,000 loan and later sold it for \$70 million.

Barbara gave her mother credit for her own perseverance. "For a lot of parents, the only gifts they encourage are good grades at school... Thank God my mother didn't buy into that. She would say, 'Don't worry about it. You'll fill in the blanks with your imagination!"

Barbara explained that her son also struggled with dyslexia. While she worked to find a school better suited for him, she emphasized the positive. He loved sports, so she filled his life with sports. At first, he was failing in his classes.

"When Tommy was getting D's in school, I hung his report card from the chandelier. He was embarrassed, but he loved it. I was so proud that he was able to survive," she explained. "When he moved up to C's, then B's, and then A's, he was like, 'Of course, mom! What did you think I was going to do?"

Barbara said, "Once he got past the reading and writing, I found I had a math and science genius. Now he's on his way to Columbia University! But how did he get there? He got there because I preserved his confidence."

Confidence is a student's greatest asset! That's what I told the parents of another struggling teen. A psychologist advised them to cut back his extracurricular activities, even though they were his source of success, friends, and confidence. This advice enraged me! Sacrificing confidence in the name of academic success will *destroy* both! Instead, he can--and should—have both.



The tragic loss of a friend's child strengthened my mission to nurture the spirit within every student!

In order to succeed, students need their spirit of curiosity and confidence, their "Kenley spirit." We can nourish that spirit by celebrating their successes—not just their successes in school, but in whatever they find rewarding.

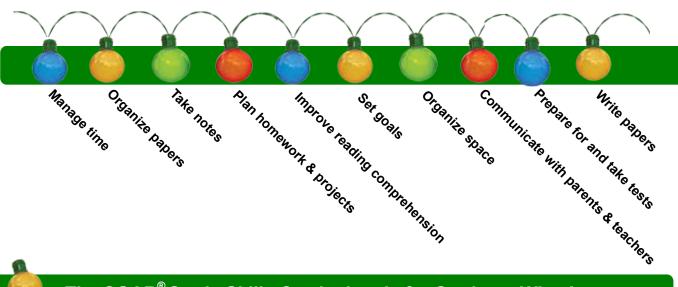
Kenley can serve as a beacon for all parents and educators, especially as the benchmarks for standardized tests increase and the stakes rise for funding. As we saddle our wonderful children with these increased expectations, let's not forget that our real mission is to honor their individual spirits. We can provide a relevant education for them while celebrating their gifts, not in spite of them. We can teach them how to learn, so they can succeed in school while also developing their passions.



EDUCATORS

SOAR® for Educators

SOAR® is built upon a foundation of student-friendly strategies that work!





The SOAR® Study Skills Curriculum Is for Students Who Are:

- Disorganized
- Struggling with ADD/ADHD or other learning challenges
- Failing to turn in homework
- Failing tests
- Not working to their potential
- "Good" students who want to learn and work more efficiently



Our Curriculum Is Ideal for the Following Programs:

- Response to Intervention
- School-wide implementation
- · Before/after-school programs
- Freshman academies
- Tutoring programs
- · Academic probation programs
- At-risk classes
- Any student or group of students who want to be more organized and learn more efficiently



Features of SOAR® Include:

- 100% money-back guarantee
- · Assessments for progress monitoring
- Aligned to 21st Century Skills & ACT WorkKeys[®]
- · Student-friendly system





Dear Fellow Educator,

Would you like to boost your school's AYP in just one year?

Your students are not struggling in school because they lack specific content knowledge. They are struggling because they lack specific learning skills.

What if you could teach just 20% of your students simple and effective strategies for:

- · Managing their time,
- Completing and keeping track of their assignments,
- · Effectively reading textbooks,
- · Immediately improving writing skills,
- · Learning strategically and efficiently (moving beyond rehearsing and memorization), and
- · Developing independent and critical thinking skills...

What would that do for their grades? Their confidence? Their performance on high-stakes tests? Your school's AYP?



Elisa Collins shares her Lighthouse Award for Exemplary Teaching. Elisa was honored for her accomplishments in teaching study skills.

"I Teach Study Skills and Won a Teaching Award!!"

This was the subject line of an email I received last spring. Our long-time client, Elisa Collins, is a sixth-grade teacher and was awarded the prestigious Lighthouse Award for her exemplary work with students. Her email continued...

"I have used the SOAR® curriculum for 3 years now and it has made the kids smarter and more organized! The newspaper also ran a huge spread on the award. The actual ceremony is tonight and I am very happy to tell the attendees how important study skills are for todays' learners! Thank you for creating such a wonderful program."

- Elisa Collins, Cape Coral, FL

Boost Your

School's AYP!

Elisa is a leader in her community and advocate for study skills; she has witnessed the impact they have on students' performance. She sees the value and necessity of these essential skills, for both school and the future workplace.

Her focus is on teaching her students how to be *learners*. "I teach them how to learn strategically, organize themselves, process new information, make critical decisions, and use these 'superpowers' to be successful: in the 21st century, in this school, in high school and the future." Elisa uses the SOAR® Study Skills workbooks and Multi-Media Teacher's Guide alongside her 6th grade curriculum. I congratulate Elisa on her well-deserved award and salute her for her dedication.

Will You Be Next?

Our curriculum includes all of the strategies students need to be successful in school, but it does not walk, talk, teach, or touch lives like Elisa does--or like you do. I appreciate the energy and dedication you devote to your students every day! I hope you will consider making us a partner in your mission to improve students' lives—and your AYP. You can be the next "Elisa" that we brag about here, at SOAR®.

We offer a full guarantee, so there is nothing to lose, but much to gain.

Sincerely.

Susan Kruger, M.Ed.





ED

Why Teach Study Skills? Study Skills Improve Standardized Test Scores

"This program is great for any demographic! I have seen the positive impact SOAR® has had on our students. I get numerous comments from students, teachers, and parents alike! They all agree that the simplicity, speed, and efficiency that the SOAR® system brings is as vital for learning as addition is to math class."

- Gary Thompson, Director of Toledo Technology Academy in Ohio, an urban school, ranked the 2nd Best High School in the Midwest



On the path towards Benchmark Mastery, and high scores on standardized tests, students encounter many "exit ramps" to learning. These obstacles include: poor reading comprehension, inefficient work habits, and no strategies for long-term learning.

Study skills teach students how to learn effectively and efficiently, helping them avoid these diversions...and improve mastery for the high-stakes tests.

"Excellent, useable information!"

- Lori Bolton, middle school teacher

"Wonderful organizational ideas... the prioritizing activity will be great to use with students. The writing tools will also be a significant help!"

- Nancy Anderson, high school teacher

"This is a great system! I would like to see my whole school use this. Will you train my colleagues?"

- Sarah Daniels, middle school teacher





SOAR® Study Skills Curriculum for Classrooms

The SOAR® Study Skills Curriculum includes our award-winning student book, Multi-Media Teacher's Guide, and Curriculum Supplements.



The SOAR[®] Study Skills program was developed in response to common complaints from students, parents, and teachers:

- "I left my homework at home!"
- "I forgot we had a test today!"
- "I did my homework, but now I can't find it."
- "I don't know how to study for tests."
- "Reading a textbook is boring. I never remember what I read, anyway."

The SOAR® Study Skills Curriculum is a series of 10-20 minute lessons that follow a brain-based model. Each lesson:

- Identifies the organization or learning problems.
- Presents solutions and the principles that make them work.
- · Applies the solutions to students' lives and work immediately.
- Encourages regular review, making modifications as necessary.

Topics Covered Include:

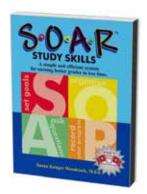
- Multiple Intelligences
- Time and Task-Management
- Goal-Setting
- Paper Organization
- Homework/Project Planning
- Reading Skills

- Organizing at Home & School
- Note-Taking Strategies
- Test-Taking Strategies
- · Communication & Affective Skills
- Writing Strategies

Request a
FREE Digital
Review Copy
of the
Curriculum at:

www.soarSS.com/ soarcurriculum

SOAR® Study Skills Student Book



\$29.99 (price breaks available; see page 30)

"I was getting C's and D's. Now I'm getting A's and B's! I learned how to be organized and how to study... it has made such a difference!" - Katie H., 11th grade student

What Grade Level Can Use This Book?

Whether students are in 6th grade or in college, the type of academic tasks they have to do are the same. Therefore, strategies in this book are suitable for: upper elementary • middle school • high school • college

"I am reading chapters in my textbooks now. It's really easy and really helps me study for tests!" - Keith Schwartz, 6th grade student

What About Reading Level?

The reading level matches the *everyday* reading level of a newspaper article; each section is written in a clear, succinct, and professional manner. There are plenty of visuals and diagrams to provide support for struggling readers and enriched examples for more advanced students. (This book will teach all students how to use visuals in text to strategically improve their reading!)

EDUCATORS





teachers who wanted more content than the book provides and needed assessments to monitor progress scientifically.

We wanted to meet teachers' requests, but we wanted to keep the student book succinct. So, we developed the Multi-Media Teacher's Guide as a turn-key tool to help teachers dig deeper into the content with RELEVANT lessons!

"I love the Multi-Media Teacher's Guide! It is a great way to provide a visual representation of the topics we are discussing in class. It helps students get a better feel for the material."

-Adam A., high school teacher

The Multi-Media Teacher's Guide Is a Complete Resource Kit! It includes:

- Ready-to-go lesson plans.
- **180 done-for-you slides** with interactive visuals for instruction.
- Multiple assessments! (See page 20 for more details.)
- Clean, bright, and colorful presentation. Great for visual learners!
- **Additional internet resources** that tie SOAR[®] into current technologies.
- A lot of support! Comprehensive instructor support is included.

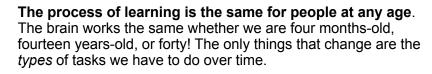
"The Teacher's Guide is very user-friendly and convenient. My students like the language and identify with the skills they need to work on as they go through high school."

-Meghan S., intervention specialist

Complete Kit: \$499

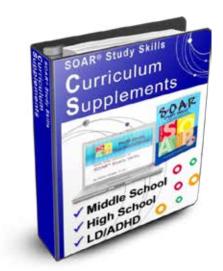
"Thank you so much for this wondeful resource! I am teaching a new study skills course this year. The (resources) you provide are invaluable. These materials are lifesavers... literally!" -Deb P., middle school teacher





Once a student is in middle school, the types of school tasks remain the same through college. All levels have to take notes, complete assignments, read textbooks, write papers, and take tests. Students only need to know a few, fundamental strategies to do each of these tasks efficiently.

However, we fully acknowledge that the emotional and intellectual development of students at the middle and high school levels are different. Students with learning disabilities and ADHD can often use additional support. So, we created the Curriculum Supplements to specifically address the biological, emotional, and educational differences among students in each group, and provide tailored recommendations for teaching study skills most effectively to young adults.



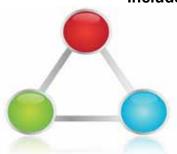
More details available at: www.soarSS.com/CurriculumSupplements

FREE, EXCLUSIVE BONUS Available only for curriculum orders over \$1,000.





Assessments Included With the Multi-Media Teacher's Guide



SOAR solution is solved approach to assessing soft skills includes an Assessment Matrix that triangulates data and evaluates many different angles of students progress.

Study skills fall into the category of soft skills, as defined by the U.S. Department of Labor Employment & Training Administration.

Soft skills are problem-solving, critical thinking, and communication skills required to function in society. They are perhaps best defined as the opposite of "hard skills," which are the technical skills required to complete a job.

Because the nature of *soft skills* is very personal and somewhat invisible, assessment has been challenging in the past. However, the Multi-Media Teacher's Guide provides several assessments that collect data from a variety of different perspectives and "triangulate" it into a comprehensive picture of students' progress.

The assessments include:

Study Skills Scorecard

This assessment measures the change in students' attitudes, perceptions, and skills from the beginning of the SOAR® program to the conclusion of the course.

Constructed Response - Lesson Reviews

A constructed response assessment is provided for each lesson, encouraging students to reflect, in their own words, on the specific skills and strategies they have learned from each lesson. This assessment measures students' comprehension of the content in the program.

The Exit Presentation

The Exit Presentation is a final assessment and is provided as a reproducible rubric. Students are prompted to reflect on their newly developed skills, provide evidence to demonstrate their progress throughout the course, and explore the potential impact that study skills can continue to have in their lives. This assessment evaluates students' content knowledge and application of skills.

Study Skills Assessment Matrix

The Assessment Matrix allows teachers to record evaluations for several components of the program: application of strategies, practice items in the student book, Lesson Reviews, and the Exit Presentation. This assessment monitors the specific implementation and application of the strategies taught in the program.

Grade Tracking

For long-term assessment, we suggest a compilation of students' grades for two or more card-markings prior to learning the SOAR® Study Skills system, the card-marking(s) in which students are participating in the program, and for two or more card-markings following the program. This assessment measures the long-term impact of the study skills program.

Response to Intervention

Many schools are using SOAR® Study Skills for RTI!

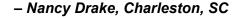
The following is an e-mail we received from a frustrated educator:

"I work in a middle school and see the severe lack of study and organizational skills of the students entering this academic arena. The wheels seem to fall off these students! Most have never been taught organizational skills but are expected, by middle school, to be independent and organized.

"One of my students has severe dyslexia and he is actually better off in school than the unorganized child. By law, the school is providing him with many accommodations and resource help to assist. Those children that lack organizational skills simply fall through the cracks and receive no help or sympathy!"

Study skills bridge an essential gap between "mainstream" and special education! RTI allows that bridge to happen.

Ш



Every week, we receive e-mails or phone calls from teachers like Nancy who are exasperated over the challenges their students have in school because they lack organization and study skills.

In Prince George County, VA, the team of school psychologists discovered that over 50% of their caseload referrals were due to a lack of study skills! As a result, they formed a Study Skills Committee specifically to address these problems.

Response to Intervention is now allowing schools to provide resources to these struggling students before it is too late. Study skills, or "strategic learning skills," provide students with the skills to easily manage papers, keep track of homework, manage their time, and learn more efficiently. Every student can benefit from these skills, but struggling students have the most to gain!

How It Works

TIER I: Teachers can easily embed SOAR®,'s study skills across the curriculum for the whole class. Our triangulated assessments allow teachers to identify students who need additional assistance implementing the strategies. Those students will move up to Tier II.

TIER II: In Tier II, students meet in small groups to target specific skills or strategies with which they need help. Tier I assessments will allow teachers to identify targeted small groups, based on specific skill difficulty. This small group instruction can pull additional instructional resources from the Multi-Media Teacher's Guide or simply focus on helping students apply the strategies more effectively to their current school assignments. Assessments will monitor content knowledge and implementation.

Tier III: Students who escalate to this level are usually doing so for learning challenges outside of the spectrum of study or organizational skills. However, these skills are essential for most struggling students and continue to play a role in the individualized learning plans created in Tier III.





Study Skills Training Options

The SOAR® Curriculum materials (the student book and the Multi-Media Teacher's Guide) are very comprehensive with clear guidelines, so training is optional. However, if your school is looking to implement a strong initiative (typically with three or more teachers), training is a good way to coordinate an effective program.



Study Skills for Primary Students

(K-2): Teacher Training Video

Age-appropriate strategies to help students:

- Organize papers, space, and time.
- Learn how we learn.
- · Use "study skills" when learning.
- Develop work habits.

Includes a special set of 4 reproducible books and audio CD. **Running time:** 105 minutes \$299



Study Skills for Intermediate Students

(3-5): Teacher Training Video

Age-appropriate strategies to help students:

- · Organize papers, space, and time.
- Learn how we learn.
- Use study skills when learning.
- Prepare for and take tests.

Includes 3 SOAR® Study Skills books for teacher reference.

Running time: 130 minutes \$299



Study Skills for Middle & High School

(6-12): Teacher Training Video

This video will:

- Share methods for effectively teaching SOAR[®] strategies and the theories behind them.
- Share tips for developing and maintaining motivation.
- Demonstrate several hands-on activities.
- Address common complaints and excuses constructively.
- Provide suggestions for pacing the instruction over time.

Running time: 135 minutes \$299



Live and Web-Based Professional Development sessions are also available.

For more information visit:

www.soarSS.com/LiveandWebPD



EDUCATORS

Study Skills Curriculum for Tutors

The SOAR® Study Skills Tutoring Curriculum includes our award-winning SOAR® Study Skills Workbook and the Tutoring Enrichment Guide. In order to teach the program effectively, you will need one Tutoring Enrichment Guide for the instructor and one SOAR® Study Skills Workbook for each student (volume discounts available).



Tutoring Enrichment Guide

Ready-to-go visual presentation is divided into six hour-long lessons. Includes teaching tips and assessments. \$299

SOAR® Study Skills Student Workbook

This best-selling book is the cornerstone of our study skills programs. \$29.99*

*Volume discounts apply for purchases of 4 or more books.

FREE Bonus:

How to Advertise Tutoring Services

This report offers valuable tips to help you establish yourself as an expert tutor, advertise your services, and build a successful business.

Get a free preview for tutors at: www.StudySkills.com/tutoring-curriculum/

Parent & Community Education

SOAR® Study Skills Parent Presentations



These web-based videos provide material for a parent presentation about the SOAR® program. It also provides family-friendly tips for supporting their children and teens at home. \$299

(6-12): Parent Presentation

Two versions available:

- K-5
- 6-12

Study Skills Workshop Guides

These web-based guides are the perfect fit for workshop settings. \$499

Includes three modules:

- Setting & Achieving Goals
- **Getting Organized**
- Textbooks, Notes, & Tests







What Study Skills Should Students Be Learning at Different Grade Levels?

Our Study Skills Continuum Chart outlines age-appropriate skills for grades 4-12.

Get a FREE copy at: www.soarSS.com/sContinuum

Do Teachers at Your School Think Study Skills Can Help?

Our FREE Teacher Survey can help you find out!

Download and print the survey at: www.soarSS.com/sTeacherSurvey

How Does SOAR® Compare to Other Study Skills Programs?

Download our quick and easy Curriculum Evaluation Chart to compare SOAR® to other programs you are considering. We acknowledge that this chart has an inherent bias towards our program, but it will give you a more detailed insight into the content of the program and careful intentions of the author. This insight will ultimately help you make your own judgment of the program.

SOAR®	Other	Evaluation	SOAR®	Other	Evaluation
1		Program is designed for the age and grade level you need.	1		Program is cost-effective.
✓		Strategies will help students save time and increase effectiveness.	1		Costs of school/ organizational supplies are reasonable.
1		Strategies are student-directed.	/		Program is flexible.
✓		Program covers skills that you and your staff/colleagues have determined to be critical.	/		Program teaches a system of strategies that integrate with one another.
1		Strategies apply across all content areas.	1		Includes tips and considerations for students with ADHD & LD.
/		Minimal teacher preparation is required.	1		Support materials for parents are available.

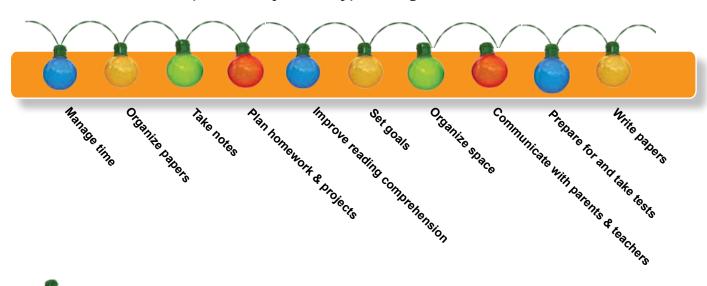
Download and print the full Curriculum Evaluation Chart at: www.soarSS.com/SOARcec





SOAR® for Parents & Students

SOAR® is built upon a foundation of student-friendly (and family-friendly) strategies that work!





The SOAR® Study Skills Resources Are for:

Parents of students in elementary, middle, and high school who are experiencing homework battles and do not know how to help their child(ren).

Students in middle school, high school, and college who are spending hours on homework, having a hard time earning good grades, or would simply like to learn strategic ways to get better grades in less time.



Some of the Most Common Issues We Hear From Parents Include:

- "She saves everything for the last minute!"
- "Homework is a constant battle with him."
- "He takes forever to finish his homework!"
- "School papers never make it home."
- "His book bag is a mess!"
- "She doesn't know how to take tests!"
- "He's not working to his potential! He's smart, but he doesn't do well in school."
- "I'm tired of driving back to the school every evening to get his folders and notebooks!"
- "I saw him do his homework, but his teacher says he did not turn it in..."
- "He refuses to listen to my advice..."





Dear Fellow Parent,

Can you relate to any of the comments or frustrations listed on the previous page? If you are like most parents, you are likely exasperated over homework and school! Parents often call us, "beating themselves up," thinking they must be doing something wrong. In fact, MOST parents experience homework or school frustrations on a regular basis.

You are not alone!

Long before I became a parent, I spent hundreds of hours working as an in-home tutor. That experience allowed me to work intimately with many families and help them troubleshoot homework problems. Each family was certainly unique, but they all suffered from the same, fundamental problems.

Just like us, they were all short on time and needed systems with heavy-duty leverage points. In other words, they needed simple strategies that would provide powerful results.

I felt like a freshman all over again when my son started school several years ago.

We started with some good systems in place, but we hit a wall halfway through the year. In our district, kindergartners go to school all day, every day, and they get a *lot* of homework! While I don't believe that was age-appropriate, I had to deal with it and the battles with my son began.

One day, I thought...

"WHAT ADVICE DO I GIVE OTHERS THAT I AM NOT TAKING, MYSELF?"

When I stepped back to answer that question, I rediscovered several strategies that were helpful and got us through a tough year--even with a kindergartner.



My son and I shortly after he started school...and I "re-learned" the ropes!

My family is a lot like yours... busy! Every day is a balancing act as we strive to keep education our top priority, but I don't give any advice that I'm not willing to take myself.

You don't have to suffer through endless homework frustrations! Your child can learn strategies that will serve him (or her) for life. I hope you will join us.

All of our products and classes are backed by our 100% money-back guarantee... you have nothing to risk, but much to gain!

Sincerely,

Susan Kruger, Mom & M.Ed. Author of SOAR® Study Skills

Motivation and the Spiral of Success

Motivation is, by far, the most common concern expressed from parents! They worry that their child is not motivated in school.

I deal with this issue in every study skills class I teach. Eighty percent of my students are there because a parent is making them attend. So, I acknowledge how they feel and make them a promise they can't refuse...

I begin by explaining, "I know you are tired of doing homework and slogging through school. The last thing you want is to take on more work. But I don't want you to have more work. I want you to do well in school, while creating more time for 'fun stuff.' I promise to show you how to get better grades... in less time!"

Students always appreciate my honesty--and they love my promise!



The SOAR® Spiral of Success We take your child or teen's toughest challenges and flip them into successes! This will launch an outward spiral of positivity into every aspect of their lives.

Of course, I deliver.

Another important key to motivation is to celebrate our children's strengths! The importance of recognizing your child's interests and talents cannot be overstated. Children and teens who have struggled receive so much negative feedback; they are constantly reminded of what they don't do well. They need a steady source of positive encouragement!

I talk to a lot of frustrated parents...

But, when I ask them the questions below, they relax; their faces light up with a smile, and their voices lighten with joy! Before you go any further, take a moment to reflect on those questions. (Share your answers with your child!)

Celebrate Your Child or Teen's Strengths!					
What does your child enjoy doing? What is he good at? What are his strengths and talentsin and out of school?					
What gives her the greatest sense of pride? What will she stick with, even when she's frustrated?					
What comes easiest to your child in school?					
In what settings is your child most comfortable?					

I want your child or teen to experience the same sense of success, confidence, and motivation that I did! Start by celebrating strengths and you'll quickly create your own Spiral of Success!





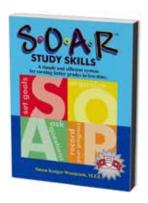
Products for Parents & Students

How will your child SOAR®?

Get started with one of the following options for individual students and families:



SOAR® Study Skills Workbook



SOAR®'s basic program is outlined in this book, geared for middle and high school students.

More details below.

\$29.99

SOAR® School Success Kit -orADHD School Success Kit



Get started *quickly* with a Success Kit that includes: all supplies needed for SOAR®, customized inventories/action plans, and video "how to's."

More details below.

\$297



SOAR® Study Skills Workbook

The core steps of the SOAR® system are outlined in this book.

Special features include:

- Tips for students who live in two homes.
- · Guidelines for students with ADD/ADHD.
- Guidelines to help parents use this book effectively with students.



SOAR® School Success Kit

Designed for fast and easy implementation, the success kits include:

- Personalized inventories & action plans.
- All supplies to get organized.
- "How To" video and audio segments.

*Includes a \$100 credit towards a Strategic Learning Class.



ADHD School Success Kit

Designed for fast and easy implementation, the ADHD School Success Kit includes:

- Everything included in the School Success Kit (as listed above).
- ADHD video and other support materials to help students navigate ADHD challenges.
 - *Also includes a \$100 credit towards a Strategic Learning Class.

Get more details about products for parents & students:

www.soarSS.com/s4Parents



SOAR® Strategic Learning Classes

Web-Based Classes (Live & Pre-Recorded) for Students in Grades 6+

SOAR® classes are a friendly and motivating way to learn how to study right from the comfort of your own home. When students join a SOAR® Strategic Learning group, they quickly learn simple and easy ways to:

- Manage their time
- Organize their papers
- Take notes
- Plan homework and projects
- Improve reading comprehension

- Set goals
- Take tests
- Write papers
- Organize their space
- Communicate with parents and teachers

"This is more useful and interesting than any other class!"

- Shane D., 9th grade student

"It was serious and well-focused, but still fun! Thanks!"

- Emily B., 9th grade student

What Results Can I Expect?

By the end of a Strategic Learning Class, students will improve their grades and have 5-10 more hours of free-time every week. Students cannot believe how easy it is to earn better grades, faster, when they know how to study.



Strategic Learning Class – Live Live instructor, coaching, and peers.

re-Recorded Strategic

Strategic Learning Class – Video

Want to join our Strategic Learning Class, but can't make the scheduled times? You can view pre-recorded classes.

\$299

\$499



FREE

Get Our FREE Guide...

Six Steps to Conquer the Chaos: How to Organize & Motivate Students for Success

www.StudySkills.com



Order Form for Educators

To Place an Order...

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Mail: SOAR Learning Inc. Web: www.StudySkills.com

2640 Canoe Circle Parkway #225 Fax: 888.676.8481

Lake Orion, MI 48360-1887

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Mail: SOAR Learning Inc. Web: www.StudySkills.com

2640 Canoe Circle Parkway #225 Fax: 888.676.8481

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20	SOMY Suby Subs HURDON	200-499 books: \$17.99					
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	_	1500+ books: \$15.99					
28	SOAR® School Success Kit	\$297		*			
28	ADHD School Success Kit	\$2 97		*			
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For a complete list of SOAR® product offerings, visit www.StudySkills.com/products



Your satisfaction is 100% guaranteed! To learn more, visit: www.StudySkills.com/guarantee

Get Our FREE Guide...



Six Steps to Conquer the Chaos: How to Organize & Motivate Students for Success

at: www.StudySkills.com

Worldwide Best-Seller!



SOAR® Study Skills: Best-Selling Study Skills Book in the World! *According to Amazon.com

Premier Instructor



Susan Kruger, M.Ed. is a Premier Instructor for The Learning Annex.

Education Expert

ADDITUDEMagazine

Susan Kruger, M.Ed. is the Education Expert for the leading ADHD magazine.

Endorsed by Dr. Ned Hallowell!

Leading ADHD & Human Development expert, co-author of best-selling book, Driven to Distraction



"Susan Kruger is a genius!
She's made getting organized simple,
which is the only way kids will stick with it,
and she's made it fun, which is
a minor miracle!"

~ Ned Hallowell, M.D., Ed.D.

1,500 + Schools Across the Country and 14 Nations Worldwide use SOAR®



Map of U.S. Schools Using SOAR®

SOAR® Study Skills: Winner of the Adding Wisdom Award



...the only award recognized by Disney.com.

America's #1 Learning Expert



Susan Kruger, M.Ed. is a certified learning specialist and *former* struggling student. Growing up with learning disabilities, Susan was shocked when she simplified a few study skills in college... and graduated with a 3.9 GPA! Since that time, she's taught thousands of students how to achieve the same sense of accomplishment and confidence with study skills. Susan is the author of the international best-selling study skills book, $SOAR^{\circ}$ Study Skills, and developer of the break-through model, The ADHD CircuitTM. She's married to a fellow educator and mom to two dynamic children with ADHD and dyslexia.



978-0-9774280-3-8