

we spend every day worrying that these things will happen we will spend our days doing nothing. How is it any different for our children and their learning. Some children's development is later than others, some children aren't ready to do certain things when other children are. Can we blame them? When it is really thought about, there is not blame to be had, however most people don't think about it and do blame them.

Teachers get frustrated that their students are behind. I am a perfect example of this. I have 17 ESL students in my 4th grade class. The curriculum expects my students to be on the same level and completing the same work as the students in the other class, which is composed of GT students. I stress about it, and work really hard to get my kids on the same level, and then continue to stress because they aren't on the same level. When in reality I should just sit back and take a minute and look at the progress my students have made over the year. I have tried my best to make reading fun for them. I allowed plenty of time during the day for them to grab a book and read. I let them sit wherever they want in the classroom and many of them have found their "special spot" that they sit in every time. I provide a multitude of different books for them to choose from. My students have learned to love to read. And because of THIS most of my students are now on level where the district "requires" them to be. These students struggle daily with coming from home, where only a different language is spoken, to school where only English is spoken. I cannot imagine making that transfer of language every day. Most of these students have no one at home who reads to them in English or can help them with anything we do in school, it's no wonder they are behind. Rather than looking at the facts, it is seen that they are "slower" than all the rest, and that seems to be all that matters.