**1st Grade Science Curriculum for Students with APD**

By L.Malone (copywrited. For personal use only, not to be redistributed to others without express consent from author).

**Key Strategies:**

 **Visual Supports**: Use diagrams, charts, and pictures to reinforce learning, ensuring instructions are clear and easy to follow.

 **Written Instructions**: Provide step-by-step written or visual guides alongside verbal instructions to reduce confusion and reliance on auditory input.

 **Hands-on Learning**: Incorporate practical experiments and activities to engage multiple senses and reduce the dependency on verbal instructions.

 **Minimize Auditory Overload**: Break down complex auditory information into smaller, more manageable chunks, using pauses and repetition as needed.

**Weeks 1-2**

* **Focus**: Introduction to the Five Senses
* **Activity**: Create a “senses collage” with materials representing each sense
* **Key Strategy**: Use visual and tactile aids to reinforce sensory concepts

**Weeks 3-4**

* **Focus**: Life Cycles of Plants
* **Activity**: Grow a plant from a seed, documenting its stages with photos
* **Key Strategy**: Provide visual timelines and written observations

**Weeks 5-6**

* **Focus**: Animals and Their Homes
* **Activity**: Build models of animal habitats using craft supplies
* **Key Strategy**: Use visual aids to explain different animal habitats

**Weeks 7-8**

* **Focus**: Introduction to Weather
* **Activity**: Make a weather chart and observe daily weather changes
* **Key Strategy**: Use pictorial guides to track weather conditions

**Weeks 9-10**

* **Focus**: Simple Machines
* **Activity**: Construct a basic lever with household items
* **Key Strategy**: Provide written instructions and visual diagrams

**Weeks 11-12**

* **Focus**: States of Matter
* **Activity**: Conduct experiments with ice, water, and steam
* **Key Strategy**: Use visual diagrams to show transitions between states

**Weeks 13-14**

* **Focus**: Exploring Forces
* **Activity**: Roll objects down ramps to explore gravity
* **Key Strategy**: Offer written steps and visual aids to explain forces

**Weeks 15-16**

* **Focus**: Introduction to Plants
* **Activity**: Dissect a flower to identify its parts
* **Key Strategy**: Use labeled diagrams to illustrate plant structures

**Weeks 17-18**

* **Focus**: Understanding Animal Life
* **Activity**: Create a poster of different animal life cycles
* **Key Strategy**: Visual aids to explain life cycle stages

**Weeks 19-20**

* **Focus**: Simple Weather Instruments
* **Activity**: Make a homemade rain gauge and barometer
* **Key Strategy**: Use written instructions and visual diagrams

**Weeks 21-22**

* **Focus**: Habitats and Adaptations
* **Activity**: Build models of different animal homes
* **Key Strategy**: Provide visual explanations of habitat features

**Weeks 23-24**

* **Focus**: Exploring Shadows and Light
* **Activity**: Create shadow puppets and observe light sources
* **Key Strategy**: Use visual activities to demonstrate light behavior

**Weeks 25-26**

* **Focus**: Review and Project
* **Activity**: Create a final project incorporating all topics learned (e.g., a diorama of a habitat)
* **Key Strategy**: Provide a clear rubric with visual examples for the project