Strategies for Addressing FASD

BIRTH – AGE 3	AGES 4 – 12	TEENAGERS	ADULTS
 Slow physical growth Sleeping and feeding difficulties Slower rate to learn new skills Sensitivity to touch, sounds, light 	 Good talking skills, but poorer understanding Poorer math compared to other skills Difficulty making friends with peers/prefers younger children 	 Physical/sexual maturity with emotional/social immaturity Easily led by others Transparent lying Frustration/depression at their inability to fit in 	 Difficulty keeping jobs Ongoing need for structure in life Desire for family, independence
Strategies to Help	Strategies to Help	Strategies to Help	Strategies to Help
 Understand a child will be smaller and adjust expectations Control the bedtime environment; quiet, dark, heavy blankets, consistent time Allow lots of time for meals in a quiet, low distraction setting Seek early intervention services Try sensory integration therapy 	 Ask "show me" to check for understanding Focus on strengths Provide concrete objects to help learn abstract skills <u>Teach</u> social skills, such as when to touch others Reduce distractions in the environment Keep daily schedule consistent 	 Rehearse behaviors for risky situations Start sex/alcohol education early and repeat often Teach meanings of tone of voice, facial expressions Find an advocate in the school or community Try vocational education programs Help create appropriate social situations Get help to sort out normal adolescent behavior from real problems Educate about FASD 	 Choose jobs with built in structure Seek as much independent living as possible Find support groups Seek vocational training/job coach Teach friends and employers about FASD