

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Deciphering Directions: Why Following Instructions Varies Among Kids

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. (Response may vary) In my science class, we were given complex instructions for an experiment. I struggled to remember all the steps and felt overwhelmed. Eventually, I broke down the instructions into smaller parts, asked the teacher for clarification, and completed the experiment successfully. I learned the importance of breaking tasks into manageable steps and seeking help when needed.
2. (Response may vary) I would first identify the student's learning style and provide directions in a format that matches it. I'd create a quiet and focused workspace, minimize distractions, use visual aids, and provide step-by-step instructions. I would also offer regular check-ins, positive reinforcement, and encourage the student to ask questions if they are unsure about any part of the directions. Additionally, I might collaborate with special education specialists for tailored support.
3. (Response may vary) One example is Leonardo da Vinci, who had a unique learning style and faced various challenges. He was a polymath, excelling in multiple fields like art, science, and engineering. Despite not having formal schooling, Leonardo's insatiable curiosity and self-directed learning led him to great achievements. He often drew detailed anatomical sketches and dissected bodies to understand human anatomy for his artwork, showing how he overcame obstacles with dedication and curiosity.
4. (Response may vary) Patience and understanding are crucial because they create a safe and supportive environment for the child. When adults show empathy, the child feels valued and less anxious about their challenges. This positive atmosphere boosts their confidence and willingness to ask for help. With support, the child can develop strategies to overcome difficulties and build essential life skills, fostering a more positive learning experience and self-esteem.

