Teaching students how to Ask for Help

- Encourage students to ask for help, make sure they know how to ask for help appropriately and help them develop relevant skills and strategies.
- Establish a positive climate for asking for assistance, asking questions or asking for information or instructions to be repeated.
- Talk with the students about the importance of asking questions. Discuss how all questions are good questions and explain how asking a question may help other students who might have the same question.
- Develop classroom routines for asking for help such as displaying cue cards on their desks.
- Teach strategies for jotting down key words or questions so students won’t forget what they want to say as they wait for their turn. Sticky notes can be great tools for marking the spot in a book or writing down keywords.

- Encourage students to continue with easier parts of tasks while waiting to ask a question. For example, they could underline, highlight or rephrase direction.
- Post visual reminders to give students ideas of things to do while waiting patiently. For example, students may read, draw, or write in a journal.

Great question! I am glad you asked.