There is considerable and intense discussion in the field of intellectual disability/mental retardation about the construct of disability, how intellectual disability fits within the general construct of disability, and the use of the term intellectual disability (Glidden, 2006; Greenspan, 2006; MacMillan, Siperstein, & Leffert, 2006; Schalock & Luckasson, 2004; Switzky & Greenspan, 2006b). This discussion is occurring within the context of competing world views of the philosophical and epistemological underpinnings of the conceptions of intellectual disability/mental retardation (Switzky & Greenspan, 2006a).

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Whereas, there is a strong trend, nationally and internationally, to use the term “intellectual disability” rather than mental retardation, based on the recognition that the term intellectual disability is preferred by individuals with disabilities and considered a less offensive term that is more consistent with promoting dignity and respect for people with disabilities; Whereas, there is a clear trend away from the use of the term “mental retardation” by state agencies dedicated to serving individuals with intellectual disability, as demonstrated by the fact that only two... Whereas, on July 1, 2009 the name of the Department of Mental Retardation was changed to the Department of Developmental Services Mental retardation new name and types. What are causes, symptoms, signs & levels of mental retardation. How is mental retardation diagnosed & treated.  But in defining and assessing intellectual disability, the American Association of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (https://aaidd.org/home) stresses that additional factors must be taken into account, such as the community environment typical of the individual’s peers and culture. Professionals should also consider linguistic diversity and cultural differences in the way people communicate, move, and behave. Help him count the change. Find opportunities in your community for social activities, such as scouts, recreation center activities, sports, and so on. Cognitive or intellectual disability (ID) in humans is a common trait that has a genetic etiology in as many as one-half of cases. Genetic causes range from single-gene defects to trisomies. The discovery of mutations that lead to ID has led to improved diagnosis and the opportunity for reproductive decisions based on prenatal diagnosis. In addition, understanding the gene defects in ID has elucidated molecules and pathways important for normal cognition, assisting with efforts to understand brain function. Schalock RL, Luckasson RA, Shogren KA, Borthwick-Duffy S, Bradley V, Buntinx WHE, Coulter DL, Craig EM, Gomez SC, Lachapelle Y et al (2007) The renaming of mental retardation: understanding the change to the term intellectual disability.