



P.E.T. Learning Styles Solution  
By Susan W. Hixson - Posted Jan 1, 2006

## REPORT CARD

**Overall Rating:** 4 Stars

**Installation:** A

**Content/Features:** A

**Ease of Use:** A

**Product Support:** A

**Company:** Learning Station, 8008 Corporate Center Drive, Suite 210, Charlotte, NC 28226; Phone: 888/679-7058; Fax: 704/926-5401; <http://www.learningstation.com/>.

**Price:** School-based pricing. \$1,875—school site, first year; \$900 for subsequent years. Volume discounts apply for districts.

**Audience:** K-12 teachers are the primary audience. Students and parents can also benefit by learning more about learning styles and focusing on appropriate activities.

**Format:** Online access with user name and password.

**Minimum System Requirements:** A computer with Internet access and a browser. The program runs with most browsers on Mac or PC systems.

**Description:** The P.E.T. (Personal Empowerment through Type) Learning Styles Solution is an online program based on the psychological theories of Carl Jung. Teachers and students fill out an online questionnaire and receive an evaluation of their personality and teaching/learning styles. Suggestions are offered to teachers to adjust teaching styles to enhance student achievement and interest.

## Reviewer Comments:

**Installation:** No installation is required. The program is accessed online at <http://pet.learningstation.com/>. A user name and password are required for access. **Installation Rating:** A

**Content/Features:** P.E.T. Learning Styles Solution is designed to help teachers develop effective lessons for a wide range of learning styles.

The teacher first responds to an 80-question survey designed to identify personality and teaching styles. The focus is on the positive as teaching style and communication skills are revealed. The program focuses on the strengths and gifts of the teacher that will be used when working with students.

Students also answer an 80-item questionnaire with statements similar to those on the teacher survey. The results become a profile of each student.

The assessment is written for a fifth-grade reading level. Students may choose to have the questions read aloud. The potential answers include a range of responses, from a strong no to a strong yes. Some words are highlighted and can be selected to find a definition. Profiles for younger students are completed with a Student Observation Check done by a teacher or parent.

Once the assessment is finished, students can view the report and read the details that cover communications and learning. The student reports are supportive and easily read. No specific labels are applied in the student view.

A nice feature at the bottom of the page is the information on study tips and test-taking tips that that apply to all students. This information can be printed and saved.

The teacher's version of the student profile contains more specific information about learning preferences that includes labels and specific suggestions for a teaching focus with the student. The suggestions for teaching activities to reach each type of learner are quite helpful.

The student learning profile includes the dominant learning style, strategies for working with the student at school, and tips for the parents to use at home. The profile examines student feelings about working with groups or working independently. The information even suggests where a student should sit in the classroom and if she or he should work in groups or be given some quiet alone time for best learning results.

Students are encouraged to discuss the results of their evaluation with their teacher. If the student and teacher agree that the profile does not accurately represent the student, the teacher can reset the profile and the student can retake the assessment. ***Content/Features Rating: A***

***Ease of Use:*** The P.E.T. Learning Styles Solution is straightforward and easy to use. Teachers and students log in with user names and passwords. Once the profiles are completed, the student has no reason to revisit the program and it becomes a teaching tool for the teacher. ***Ease of Use Rating: A***

***Product Support:*** Product support is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Toll-free telephone support is available at 888/679-7058. Support is also available on the company's Web page. A frequently asked questions page appears online.

Training seminars are presented at two levels. One level focuses on the lead teacher or trainer; a second level targets program users. ***Product Support Rating: A***

***Recommendation:*** The P.E.T. Learning Styles Solution is a unique approach to bringing the styles of teaching and learning together for the best results. The program represents a strong first step in exploring learning styles to increase student learning outcomes.

It is powerful that the program gives lesson suggestions that can apply to daily routines. The student information can be quite helpful for teachers as they plan activities to benefit each student in their class; however, it's important to keep in mind that a wide array of styles and methods tend to enhance the learning of all students.

I encourage teachers to use this program and continue to learn how to work with the many student

learning styles. The ideas for parent support at home may prove to be quite helpful as parents and teachers work together to enhance student achievement. ***Recommended.***