

Online Resources for Child Care Providers: children with special needs

Inclusion

Open Hearts, Open Doors: Providing Inclusive Child Care. Oregon Inclusive Child Care Program.
<http://ocdd.org/images/uploads/openHeartsBooklet.pdf>

This is an easy to understand document written for child care providers who may have little or no experience with special needs. Covers: benefits of inclusion, ADA and child care, tips for providing care for children with special needs, creating an inclusive environment, partnering with parents, teaming with special service providers, frequently asked questions and misconceptions, and resources. Includes quotes from parents of children with and without special needs and child care providers.

Child Care plus +. The Center on Inclusion in Early Childhood, The University of Montana Rural Institute.
<http://www.ccplus.org/BackIssues.html>

Publication with short articles, resources, ideas for inclusion in preschool settings. Topics include behavior, toy adaptations, communication, and other topics related to inclusion.

Kids Included Together (KIT) National Training Center on Inclusion
<http://www.kitonline.org/html/training-individual/elearning-instructional-videos.html>

Short instructional videos on several topics:

- Communicating effectively with parents
- Relaxation techniques
- Facilitating positive interactions
- Accommodating children who are over or under-sensitive
- Using picture and object schedules
- Implementing visual supports for activity areas

Successfully Supporting All Children in Early Childhood Education Programs

New York State Developmental Disabilities Planning Council July, 2007

http://ddpc.state.ny.us/pages/bl_search_results.htm?cx=015310087678958571668%3Asnvgq1wv7e&cof=FORID%3A9&ie=UTF-8&Search+Criteria=Successfully+Servng+All+Children

IF the link doesn't work, enter "Successfully Supporting All Children" in the search line. Several articles on different aspects of inclusion. One on visual supports with lots of ideas and visuals, another on signing with infants and toddlers.

Philadelphia Inclusion Network (PIN) Child and Family Studies Research Programs at Thomas Jefferson University. <http://jeffline.tju.edu/cfsrp>

Training modules for child care providers on several topics related to inclusion of children with special needs in child care settings. Topics include: Adaptation & Accommodation, ADHD/ADD, Autism/PDD Spectrum Disorder, Early Intervention Resources & Relationships, Family Day Care Homes: Natural Environments as a Teaching Tool, Individualizing for Families, Promoting Social Competence, Welcoming ALL Children, and other topics.

Think Big, Start Small Wisconsin Child Care Information Center http://dpi.wi.gov/ccic/pdf/together_ch_g.pdf

This manual on inclusive child care has lots of ideas on getting started caring for children with special needs and working cooperatively with parents. It also includes information on child care providers responsibilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Identification of Special Needs and Special Services

Learn the Signs. Act Early Campaign Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
www.cdc.gov/actearly

This website contains free, down-loadable materials for parents and child care providers about identifying developmental delays and other disabilities early. Materials for child care providers include a tipsheet on talking with parents, a toolkit for assessing children during play, milestones checklists, and a list of resources. This website also has short fact sheets on a variety of disorders including ADHD, Autism Spectrum Disorders, Cerebral Palsy, and several more.

Special Needs - Parent Tool Kit Military Homefront.

www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/efm

This is a resource for military families but also has great information on Birth to Three and Special Education services.

Growing Ideas: Assessment Basics University of Maine Center for Community Inclusion and Disabilities Studies

<http://umaine.edu/ccids/files/2009/12/assessment120309.pdf>

Two page tip sheet on developmentally appropriate preschool assessment practices.

Play and Toy Adaptations

Beyond Play – Early Intervention Products for Young Children with Special Needs (catalog)

<http://www.beyondplay.com/>

Toys and learning materials in a variety of categories including sensory exploration, social emotional, bubble toys, dramatic play, active play, musical toys, and more.

Easy Toy and Game Adaptations (short article)

<http://www.answers4families.org/family/special-needs/assistive-technology/easy-toy-and-game-adaptations>

Easy adaptations to toys and games for children who have disabilities that affect their motor and/or play skills.

Let's Play! Projects University of Buffalo Center for Assistive Technology. <http://letsplay.buffalo.edu/>

This website includes guidelines for choosing toys and promoting play opportunities for children with disabilities.

Behavior and Social Skills

Addressing children's challenging behavior by Mary Gersten. Exchange magazine, Jan/Feb 2011

<http://childcareexchange.com/library/5019770.pdf>

This article considers the reasons for challenging behaviors and describes strategies for addressing children's needs and teaching social-emotional skills while addressing the challenging behaviors.

Inventory of Practices for promoting social emotional competence; Center on the Social and Emotional Foundation for Early Learning <http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/modules/module1/handout4.pdf>

A tool for individuals or child care teams to identify training needs and plan a course of action to address four general areas: building positive relationships; creating supportive environments; social emotional teaching strategies; and individualized intensive interventions.

Childhood Aggression: Where does it come from? How can it be managed? North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service

http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/fcs/pdfs/fcs_504.pdf

Short article on aggression with a list of strategies for preschoolers, school-agers, and teens, and a list of other online resources.

Helping Children Resolve Conflict: Conflict Mediation Model; University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension

<http://www.ianrpubs.unl.edu/live/g2014/build/g2014.pdf>

Eight step conflict mediation model that adults can use to guide children through conflict resolution.

Child Care plus+: The Center on Inclusion in Early Childhood, Spring 2005

www.ccplus.org

Quarterly publication on topics related to Inclusion in early childhood settings.

- *The Environment: Your Teaching Partner;* Summer 2001
- *Children Can Use Problem Solving;* Fall 2001
- *Movement Every Day In Every Way;* Fall 2004
- *Behavior Basics;* Spring 2005
- *Guiding Behavior: Reducing Children's Stress;* Spring 2006

Growing Ideas TipSheets; The University of Maine: Center for Community Inclusion & Disability Studies

www.ccids.umaine.edu/ec/growingideas/

Short, two-page papers on topics related to inclusion of children with disabilities in child care settings.

- *Behavior Communicates*
- *Whack! Slam! Bang! (on aggression)*
- *Whack! Slam! Bang! –Aggression: Selected Resources*
- *Shocking Language (Why do young children swear?)*
- *OUCH! That hurts! – Biting*
- *Friends and Feelings: Social-Emotional Development in Young Children*
- *Building Belonging: Providing Guidance for Social Skill Development*

Sensory Processing

Home activities for children with sensory processing disorder Sensory Processing Disorder Foundation (SPDFoundation). <http://www.spdfoundation.net/library/homeactivities.html>

Written for families but many ideas and guidelines are valuable and adaptable for child care.

Sensory Processing Disorders Checklist <http://www.sensory-processing-disorder.com/sensory-processing-disorder-checklist.html>

Detailed checklist that can be used to assess children's functioning and sensitivity in the following areas: tactile, vestibular, proprioceptive, auditory, olfactory, visual, auditory-language processing, oral, social, emotional, play, and regulation.

Imagine If: From Sensory Processing Disorders: Through The Eyes Of Dysfunction

<http://www.sensory-processing-disorder.com/sensory-processing-disorders.html>

Exercise for imagining what it is like for persons with various sensory differences.

Language Delay and Hearing Loss

A Parent's Guide to Hearing Loss. Produced by U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Early hearing Detection and Intervention Program.

www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/ehdi

Easy to understand guide to hearing loss in children. Tips for communicating with a baby who has hearing loss.

Learning to Talk and Listen: An oral language resource for early childhood caregivers; National Institute for Literacy

<http://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/LearningtoTalkandListen.pdf>

Make Time to Talk: Language Building Tips for Home-Based and Center Child Care Providers; National Institute for Literacy

http://lincs.ed.gov/publications/pdf/language_tipsheet.pdf

Visual Supports

Visual supports such as pictures of daily routines and common items that a child may want to request can be very supportive to children with communication difficulties including children with autism.

Breitfelder, L. M. (2008). Quick and easy adaptations and accommodations for early childhood students. *TEACHING Exceptional Children Plus*, 4(5) Article 2. Retrieved from

<http://escholarship.bc.edu/education/tecplus/vol4/iss5/art2>

Lots of ideas for using pictures to support communication in early childhood programs.

Free pictures online:

<http://images.google.com/>

www.usevisualstrategies.com

www.dotolearn.com

Signing Times Videos – Series of 12 videos on common topics such as “Time to Eat” and “My neighborhood”. Videos are available for Pierce County child care providers to check out from the Child Care Resource & Referral lending library.

Children's Mental Health

Helping Traumatized Children, A brief overview for caregivers by Bruce Perry, M.D., PhD.

http://www.naccrra.org/docs/emergency/Helping_Traumatized_Children-Brief_Overview.pdf.

Easy to understand booklet of information on the effects of trauma on infants and young children and what parents, caregivers, and teachers can do to help children who have been traumatized.

Other Internet resources

Children with Special Needs: Internet Guide for Parents and Professionals; Delaware Health & Social Services

<http://dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dms/epqc/birth3/files/internetguide.pdf>

Pages of internet resources covering all of the above topics and much more including information on all kinds of disabilities and specific medical conditions.

Autism Outreach Project: Northwest Education Service District 189

<http://www.nwesd.org/1510106111443553/site/default.asp>

Classes, information, and free Autism Lending Library

Organizations

The National Early Childhood Education Technical Assistance System (NEC*TAS) is a national technical assistance effort funded through the office of Special Education Programs of the U.S. Department of Education that supports programs for young children with disabilities and their families. NEC*TAS also provides services to selected model early childhood projects funded by the OSEP to the Federal Interagency Coordinating Council, to state-level technical assistance agencies and others.

www.nectac.org

National Network for Child Care (NNCC) is an Internet source of over 1000 publications and resources related to child care. Information is available on specific disabilities under Children with Special Needs.

www.nncc.org

The National Information Center for Children and Youth with Disabilities (NICHCY) provides information on disabilities and disability related issues for families, educators, and other professionals. NICHCY offers information and makes referrals in areas related to specific disabilities, early intervention, special education and related services, individualized education programs, family issues, disability organizations, professional associations, education rights, transition to adult life, and more.

www.nichcy.org

The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) A professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for exceptional individuals, operates the ERIC Clearinghouse on Disabilities and Gifted Education. Recent additions to CEC's Web site include a catalog of inclusion resources at www.cec.sped.org/bk/catalog/inclus.htm.

For more information www.cec.sped.org

Child Care Resource & Referral Lending Library

The following books and are available for check out by licensed child care providers in Pierce County at Child Care Resource & Referral, 1551 Broadway, Suite 301, Tacoma, WA 98402. Learning material, toys, and children's books are also available for check out.

The Inclusive Early Childhood Classroom: Easy Ways to Adapt Learning Centers for All Children by Patti Gould and Joyce Sullivan

Each chapter describes practical ways to adjust centers and classroom routines for children with special needs. The suggestions will enable all children to learn by keeping them involved in developmentally appropriate routines and center-based activities.

The six categories of special needs addressed in each chapter are:

- Developmental delays
- Orthopedic impairments
- Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD) and Autism
- Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and behavioral issues
- Motor planning problems
- Visual impairments

The Inclusive Learning Center Book for Preschool Children with Special Needs by Christy Isbell and Rebecca Isbell

This book includes lots of ideas for materials and activities for traditional and unique centers. The chapter on sociodramatic centers includes prop ideas for ten different themes including doctor's office, bakery, farm, and more. Each activity has suggested adaptations for children with the following types of special needs:

- Physical challenges
- Speech and language problems
- Autism spectrum disorder
- Developmental and/or cognitive delays
- Behavioral challenges
- Visual challenges

Signing for Kids: The fun way for anyone to learn American Sign Language. By Mickey Flodin

So This is Normal Too? Teachers and Parents Working Out Developmental Issues in Young Children. By Deborah Hewitt

Gross Motor Skills in Children with Down Syndrome: A guide for parents and professionals. By Patricia C. Winders, P.T.

Inclusive Child Care for Infants and Toddlers: Meeting Individual and Special Needs. By Marion O'Brien

Child Care in the Neighborhood: Including Kids with Special Needs. Oregon Research Institute

Young Exceptional Children: Practical Ideas for addressing challenging behaviors. By Susan Sandall and Michaelene Orstrosky

Including Children with Special Needs in Early Childhood Programs. Edited by Mark Wolery and Jan S. Wilbers.

Kids with Special Needs: Information and Activities to Promote Awareness and Understanding. By Veronica Getskow and Dee Konczal.