Meaningful Makeover Viewer's Guide

This viewer's guide gives you ideas for overcoming common challenges in the family child care learning environment. The reflection questions help you think about ways to incorporate ideas from the webinar into your own program. Helpful resources can be found in the Resources section of this guide.

Mixed-Aged Learning Environments

- Create ample space for all age groups.
- Use low, sturdy barriers to define appropriate and safe spaces for all children.
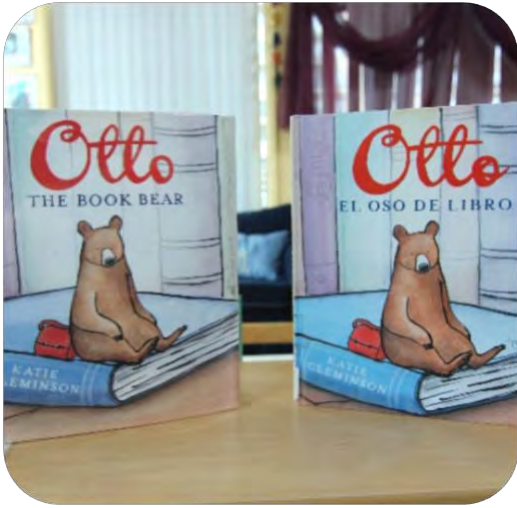- Consider what materials are within children's reach.

Write down some of the strategies you'd like to try for creating safe spaces for all children in your program.

Multilingual Family Child Care Programs

- Use children's home language(s) during daily routines and activities.
- Add books, audio books, and music in different languages to your reading spaces.
- Use multiple languages in your displays on the walls.
- Label furniture and materials with different languages.

Write down some of the strategies you'd like to try for incorporating children's home languages in your program.

Inclusion and Belonging in the Learning Environment

- Represent various races, cultures, ages, abilities, and genders in the learning materials.

- Display children's artwork.

- Celebrate similarities and differences.

- Invite families to share items from their diverse backgrounds (for example: family pictures) and display them in the learning environments.

Write down some of the strategies you'd like to try for supporting inclusion and belonging in your program.

Supporting Social and Emotional Learning

- Model and label emotions.
- Use displays and visual supports of various emotions.
- Create a calming area.

Write down some of the strategies you'd like to try for supporting children's social and emotional learning in your program.

Do It Yourself!

DIY Light Table Materials

- Under-cabinet LED light strings

- A storage box with clear or translucent, flat top

- Black paint

- Tissue paper

- Glue stick

Paint the inside of the bin with black paint; allow to dry. The black paint will help to contain the light from the Use the under-cabinet LED lights and string the lights throughout the bin. Glue a piece of white tissue paper to the top of the container. Attach the top of the container to the bottom…and voila!

Here are some other cool DIY idea using repurposed materials:

- Use inexpensive PVC pipes and a plastic bin to build your own sensory table.

- Make homemade binoculars with recycled paper towel rolls. Glue or secure together with yarn.

- Print out different cultural food dishes and glue onto colored paper. Put the recipe on the back for extended learning.

- Use felt scrap pieces cut into different animals, people, shapes (or anything!) to tell stories.

Write down some of DIY ideas you'd like to try in your program!

Helpful Resources

Online Resources

- Interactive Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework: Ages Birth to Five
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/interactive-head-start-early-learning-outcomes-framework-ages-birth-five

- The Benefits of Being Bilingual
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/pdf/benefits-of-being-bilingual-eng.pdf

- Brilliant Bilingual Babies
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/publication/brilliant-bilingual-babies

- Supporting Early Care and Education in Family Child Care
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/school-readiness/article/supporting-early-care-education-family-child-care

- Teacher Tools from the Head Start Center for Inclusion: Classroom Visuals and Supports
  http://headstartinclusion.org/tools-and-supports/classroom-visuals-and-supports/#visual

- Advancing Racial and Ethnic Equity in Head Start Series
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/culture-language/article/advancing-racial-ethnic-equity-head-start

- Talking to Children about Differences and Similarities
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/publication/talking-children-about-differences-similarities

- Multicultural Principles for Early Childhood Leaders
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/culture-language/article/multicultural-principles-early-childhood-leaders

- Dragon Brain Visual Support
  https://headstartinclusion.org/tools-and-supports/classroom-visuals-and-supports/

- Tucker Turtle Takes Time to Tuck and Think
  http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/resources/strategies.html

- Head Start Program Performance Standards
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/policy/45-cfr-chap-xiii

- Meaningful Makeover full length episode
  https://cultivatelearning.uw.edu/meaningfulmakeover/

- COVID-19 & The Head Start Community
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/about-us/coronavirus/ohs-covid-19-updates

Mobile Apps

- ELOF2GO Mobile App (available in English and Spanish)
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/school-readiness/article/elof2go-mobile-app

- ELOF@HOME Mobile App
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/teaching-practices/article/mobile-tools-home-visitors

- Head Start Resources
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/professional-development/article/head-start-resources-app

- Ready DLL Mobile App
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/culture-language/article/ready-dll-mobile-app

- Text4Teachers
  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/teaching-practices/article/text4teachers

Online Communities

- MyPeers

  https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/about-us/article/mypeers-collaborative-platform-early-care-education-community
    - Early Head Start Child Care Partnership Community
    - Teacher Time