

May 18, 2021

Supporting Preschool Families Through Inclusion

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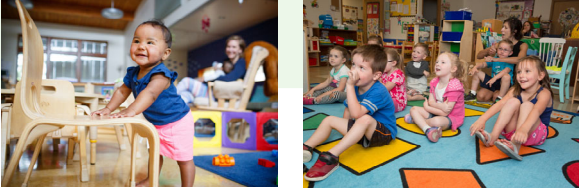
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Inclusion & Belonging



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Inclusion & Belonging



3 Infant Toddler Episodes 3 Preschool Episodes

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Webinar Features

The diagram shows a central row of icons for various webinar features. Above the icons are labels: 'Slide Deck' (over a screen icon), 'Question & Answers' (over a speech bubble icon), 'FAQs (English & Spanish)' (over two speech bubble icons labeled 'ENGLISH' and 'ESPAÑOL'), and 'Closed Captioning' (over two speech bubble icons with 'CC'). Below the icons are labels: 'Help' (over a question mark icon), 'Media Player' (over a play button icon), 'Resource List' (over a document icon), and 'Speaker Bios' (over a person icon).

National Center on
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

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Viewer's Guide

Learning Environments for All Infants and Toddlers
March 9, 2020

This viewer's guide gives you ideas for creating learning environments for all infants and toddlers. The activities, games, and activities will help you learn about how support children's learning. Help resources can be found in the Resource section of this guide.

Definition of Early Childhood Inclusion

The Division for Early Childhood (DEC) and the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) together provided a shared definition of what inclusion means and looks like in early learning environments.

Early childhood inclusion involves the values, policies, and practices that support the right of every child and young child and his or her family, regardless of ability, to participate in a broad range of activities and programs for children of diverse abilities and needs.

The shared goal of this definition is to ensure that all children and their families have the opportunity to learn, play, and grow together in settings that support their learning. The following definition of inclusion may be used to describe high-quality early childhood programs and settings in across jurisdictions, and systems.

DEC/NAEYC, 2018

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Inclusive early learning environments are places in which children, with and without disabilities, and their families experience a

- sense of belonging,
- positive social relationships,
- and development to reach their full potential.

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Inclusive Learning Environments



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This Includes Families Too!



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Research

When parents are involved in their child's early childhood program:

- Children experience greater opportunities
- Parents develop knowledge and skills, while also building connections and self-confidence
- Early childhood programs are better able to meet the needs of the children, families and the community they serve

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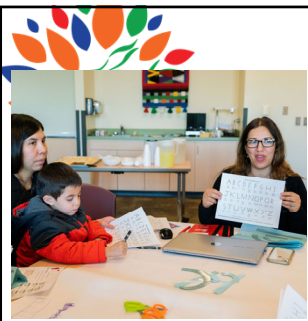


Research

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Research

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Research

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DEC Recommended Practices

Specific outcomes for families of children with disabilities include being able to:

- Identify, access, and use formal and informal sources of support
- Better know and understand their rights, and
- Participate in leadership and advocacy skill-building, if interested

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Video

Families Feel Included in the Learning Environment

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“...The defining features of inclusion that can be used to identify high-quality early childhood programs and services are **access, participation, and supports.**”

-DEC/NAEYC, 2009

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Access

Educators provide children with access to a wide range of learning opportunities, activities, settings, and environments.

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Participation

Educators provide children with individualized support that allow children to participate fully in play and learning activities with their peers and meet developmental goals.

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Supports

Education staff use resources, professional development, and trainings to support their implementation of high-quality inclusive practices.

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Supports



Education Staff Parents and Families


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Supports for Education Staff

- Professional development
- Trainings
- Coursework
- Mentor relationships
- Administrator support

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Supports for Parents and Families

- Family-Professional Collaboration
 - Relationship building
 - Active participation
 - Builds family and staff capacity

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Initial Conversation with Families



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Guest Expert

Dr. Enrica Hampton
Kindering
Early Learning Manager

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Guest Expert


Dr. Enrica Hampton
Kindering
Early Learning Manager

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Guest Expert
Dr. Enrica Hampton
 Kindering
 Early Learning Manager

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Role of the Teacher/FCC Provider

- Provide information to the IEP Team
 - Use observation and prior knowledge of child's development to inform decision-making



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Role of the Teacher/FCC Provider

- Provide information to the IEP Team
 - Use observation and prior knowledge of child's development to inform decision-making
- Share information on Head Start's comprehensive services

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The IEP Team

- Disabilities Services Coordinator
- Service Coordinator
- Therapists/Specialists
- Interpreter
- Teacher or Family Child Care Provider
- Parents and Families



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Role of the Teacher/FCC Provider

- Implement the IEP goals




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Role of the Teacher/FCC Provider

- Document children's growth and development




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Video
Documenting Children's Learning


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QR Code




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5 Key Aspects of Quality Inclusive Learning Environments

1. A safe and supportive physical environment
2. Inviting materials
3. A predictable schedule and consistent routines
4. Connecting and communicating with all children
5. Engaging interactions and meaningful learning experiences

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5 Key Aspects of Quality Inclusive Learning Environments

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Communicating with Children and Families



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Communicating with Children and Families

- Promote social interaction

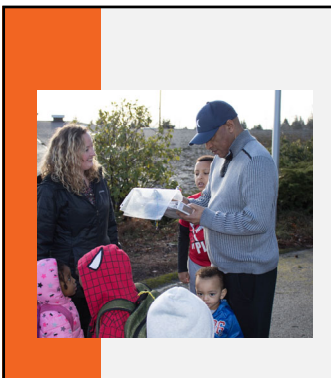
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Communicating with Children and Families

- Communicate with children each day

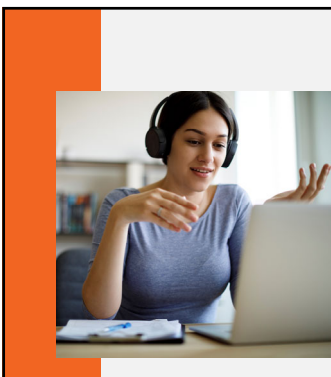
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Communicating with Children and Families

- Ongoing communication
 - Education staff feel happier and more competent
 - Builds trust and appreciation between education staff and parents


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Communicating with Children and Families

- Learn family's preferred method of communication
- Best times of day
- Preferred language

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Communicating with Children and Families

- Virtual communication
 - Video conference calls
 - Emails
 - Text messages
- Talk with administrators about free platforms and access for parents
- Virtual playdates or support groups for parents


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Communicating with Children and Families

- Communication journal
 - Parents complete during drop off
 - Teacher responds during the day
 - Back-and-forth communication promote parent involvement


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Communicating with Children and Families


- "Getting to know you" book
 - Describes the infants and toddlers in the learning environment
 - Customizable pages for each child/family
 - Helps to meet individual children's/families needs

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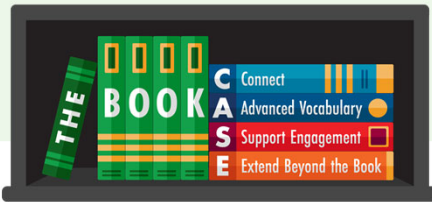
Small Changes – Big Impact

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Small Changes – Big Impact

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How books:

- Connect children to learning opportunities
- Provide advanced vocabulary
- Support engagement
- And how you extend learning beyond the book!

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BookCASE



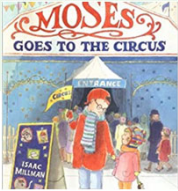
My Brother Charlie
By: Holly Robinson Peete

Moses Goes to the Circus
By: Isaac Millman

All Kinds of Families
By: Suzanne Lang


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Exploring the BOOKCASE




Moses Goes to the Circus
By: Isaac Millman

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All About You



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myP MyPeers

T4T
Text4Teachers

ELOF2GO
Your Mobile ELOF
Ages Birth to Five

Ready DLL

National Center on
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Helpful Resources

Center for Parent Information & Resources

Home About Resources CPRE Webinars Parent Centers Registered Users

About Parent Centers Serving Families of Children with Disabilities

There are nearly 500 Parent Training and Information Centers (PTICs) and Community Parent Resource Centers (CPRCs) in the US and territories. These centers provide a variety of direct services for children and youth with disabilities, families, professionals, and other stakeholders that support the learning and development of all children.

- Working with families of infants, toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities, birth to 26
- Helping centers participate effectively in their children's education and development
- Partnering with professionals and policy makers to improve outcomes for all children with disabilities

Parent Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs)
National ELOF: Support Parent Centers across the Home and Community-Based (HCB) and Statewide (SW) networks.

Find Your Parent Center
The Parent Center Locator Map at the PTIC and CPRC in the United States.

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#SleeveUp4HeadStart

Division of Head Start

- Head Start and Early Head Start staff are critical to the continued functioning of their communities.
- Find information on vaccine availability for Head Start staff on the Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center (ECLKC)

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Question & Answer Time

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PUSHPLAY
DTL On Demand

Get access to more
webinars and resources

 National Center on
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Thank You

 National Center on
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This training was supported by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) of the United States (U.S.) Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling \$19,200,000 with 100% funded by ACF. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACF/HHS, or the U.S. Government. This resource may be duplicated for noncommercial uses without permission.

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