

April 20, 2021

## Learning Materials that Promote Inclusion for Preschoolers

**Host**  
Treshawn Anderson, NCECDTL

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Gail Joseph, NCECDTL

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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

Slide Deck

Question & Answers

FAQs (English & Spanish)

Closed Captioning

Help

Media Player

Resource List

Speaker Bios

National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

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### Viewer's Guide

April 28, 2021  
Learning Materials that Promote Inclusion for Preschoolers

**Viewer's Guide**

This slide is a guide to help you navigate the learning materials for preschoolers. The information and activities will help you learn about ways to support children's learning. Watch the video and use the resources to learn more about the materials.

**Definition of Early Childhood Inclusion**

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

Early childhood inclusion includes the physical, social, and academic ways to support the right of every child to participate and learn in the family, regardless of ability. Inclusion is a shared goal of families that supports all members of families, communities, and programs.

The shared goal of inclusion is to ensure that all children with and without disabilities and their families receive a quality, developmentally appropriate, and culturally and linguistically appropriate early childhood education and care. The shared goal of inclusion is to ensure that all children with and without disabilities and their families receive a quality, developmentally appropriate, and culturally and linguistically appropriate early childhood education and care.

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### Poll

• How is your program operating?

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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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Inclusion = Practice



Belonging = Feeling



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Inclusive Learning Environments



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**Inclusive Learning Environments**

- Arrange the physical space for easy access
- Responsive schedules
- Support social engagement
- Select engaging materials
- Modify teacher interactions

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**Individual with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)**

- Ensure that free and appropriate education is available to all eligible children with disabilities



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**Video**  
Disability Law Video

Available on:



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Inclusion & Belonging Through Preschool Learning Materials

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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.

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### Supports

Educators partner closely with families and work together within a broader system of community supports and specialized services.

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**Participation**

Using a wide range of teaching practices to help children engage in the learning activities.

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### Participation



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### Participation =

- Learning
- Thriving
- Meeting developmental goals
  - ELOF
  - IEP



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### Video

Participation in the  
Preschool Environment

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**Video**  
 Participation in the  
 Preschool Environment

- Access to circle
- Move about freely
- Creative thinking

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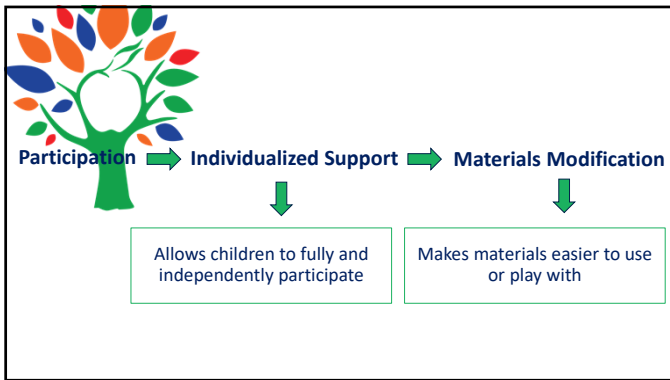
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**Modifications**

- **Small changes** that make a **big impact.**
- Individualized and help children participate
- Builds children's sense of belonging
- Ongoing process

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### Modifications

- Provide access
- Promote participation
- Provide meaningful interactions
- Support greater learning opportunities

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### Modifications

- Use modifications when children are interested BUT not participating.
- Check out the Head Start Center for Inclusion (see viewer's guide)

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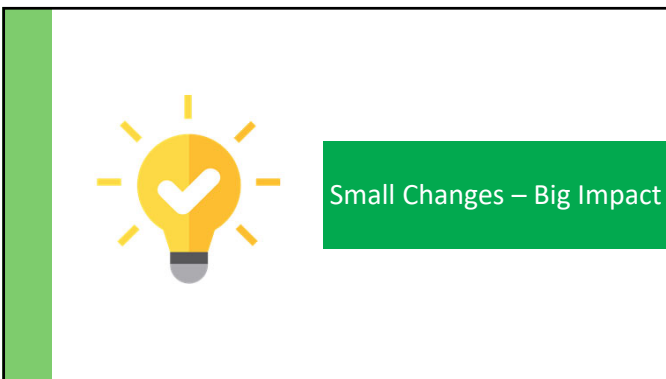
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**5 Key Aspects of Quality Inclusive Learning Environments**

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**

1. **A safe and supportive physical environment**
2. Inviting materials
3. **A predictable schedule and consistent routines**
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5. **Engaging interactions and meaningful learning experiences**

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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

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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### Inviting Materials

- Exploring materials supports preschooler’s creativity, curiosity, and scientific thinking
- Learning from families helps to create culturally responsive environments

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### Reflection



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**Reflection**

**Viewer's Guide**

**Definition of Early Childhood Inclusion**

## Reflection

- Is there something I know how to use and can use independently in each learning area?
- Are there objects and materials that reflect my interests and make me excited about learning?

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## Strategies for Adapting Materials

- Materials at optimal position for the child
- Stabilize materials
- Modify the child's response
- Make materials attractive

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## Have Materials at the Optimal Position



- Place materials so they are easier to see and reach
- Use an easel

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### Stabilize the Materials



- Stabilize materials using tape, Velcro, non-skidded backing, suction cups
- Stabilize furniture for preschoolers

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### Modify the Child's Response



- Add large foam grips or wrap masking tape around crayons, markers, eating utensils
- Modify verbal (non-verbal) responses- picture symbols, sign language, gestures

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### Make Materials Attractive



- Add shiny, colorful textures to materials
- Use objects and books with
  - Bold and simple designs
  - High-contrast colors
- Learning materials based on children's interests

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**Video**  
Adapting Materials

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**Video**  
Adapting Materials

- Modify child's response
- Optimal position
- Timer was large and bright
- Promotes independence during transitions

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**Inviting Materials**

We can make planned changes to the materials or provide individualized support when it is difficult for preschoolers to engage independently.

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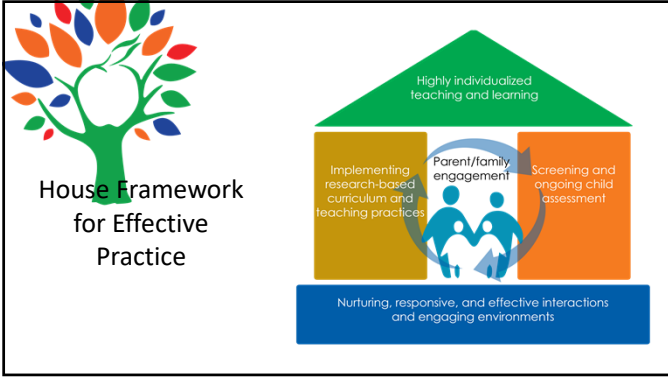
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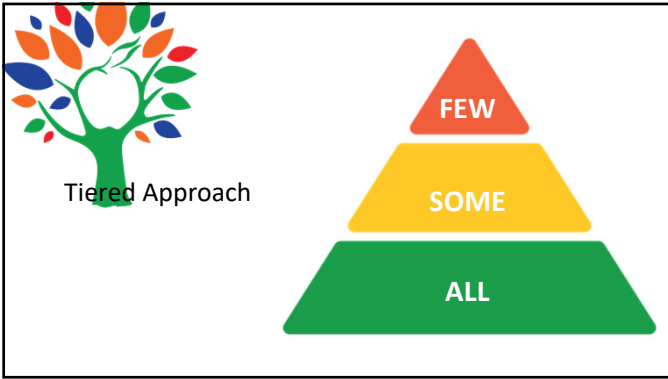
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The diagram features a laptop screen displaying a bookshelf. The books are labeled with the letters C, A, S, and E. The letters are: C (blue), A (red), S (yellow), and E (orange). To the right of the letters are four colored boxes with corresponding text: a blue box for "Connect", a red box for "Advanced Vocabulary", a yellow box for "Support Engagement", and an orange box for "Extend Beyond the Book". To the left of the laptop is a stylized tree with colorful leaves (red, orange, yellow, green, blue) and a green trunk.

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



**Just Ask!**  
by Sonia Sotomayor



**Giraffes Can't Dance**  
by Giles Andrede

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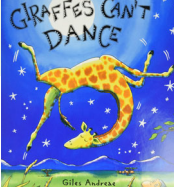
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Exploring the BOOKCASE



**Giraffes Can't Dance**  
by Giles Andrede

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All About You



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**myP MyPeers**

**T4T**  
Text4Teachers

**ELOF2GO**  
Your Mobile ELOF  
Ages 24th to Five

**Ready DLL**

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**PUSHPLAY**  
DTL On Demand

Get access to more  
webinars and resources

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**Save The Date**

**Join us for our next episodes:**

May 11, 2021  
Supporting Infant Toddler Families Through Inclusion

May 18, 2021  
Supporting Preschool Families Through Inclusion

**National Center on**  
Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning

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**Thank You!**

### Live Q&A Presenters




 **National Center on**  
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# Thank You

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