Last Updated: Oct. 2020

FAST Finds: Inclusivity

What Is the 2020 Guidance from the Commonwealth on Early Childhood Inclusion?

Inclusion of All Children in Early Childhood Education Programs in Pennsylvania (2020) provides guidance on strategies that promote inclusion for all children, sets an expectation from the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) that high-quality early childhood education (ECE) programs are inclusive of children with disabilities, and identifies resources that are available to local programs.

What Practices Can Early Childhood Educators Use Each Day to Promote Inclusion?

Assessing Opportunities to Support Each Child: 12 Practices for Quality Inclusion provides a synthesis of 12 evidence-based practices that are essential for establishing quality environments, interactions, and supports in inclusive preschool settings. For each practice, there is a set of specific strategies that can be used in an early childhood program, paired with examples of how those strategies might be used in an early childhood classroom.

Are You Using Universal Design for Learning (UDL) to Support Inclusion?

<u>Integrating Principles of Universal Design into the Early Childhood Curriculum</u> is a great article for learning about how to use a set of evidence-based practices that support both children with disabilities and their peers. The authors offer examples and recommendations with application in diverse early learning settings.

What's a Good Resource for Learning How to Include Children with Disabilities in Classroom Routines?

Classroom Routine Support Guides were developed to assist teachers and caregivers in problem-solving a plan to support young children whose behavior is challenging. Organized around the routines/activities that would typically occur in an early childhood setting, the guide is designed to help early childhood professionals select prevention strategies, teach new skills, and change responses to eliminate or minimize challenging behavior, examples for which are provided in the guides.

- <u>Toddler-Preschool</u>
- Early Elementary K-2nd

Where Can You Find Free Checklists, Practice Guides, Videos, Modules, and Other Inclusion Resources in English and Spanish?

Practice Improvement Tools: Using the DEC Recommended Practices is a collection of easy-to-use resources (e.g., checklists, practice guides) in English and Spanish. Early Childhood Recommended Practice Modules were developed for early care and education, early intervention, and early childhood special education faculty and professional development providers to use within their coursework and professional development. These modules, which feature audio clips, video clips, hand-outs, activities, and supports for instructors, are all available online.

- Practice Improvement Tools: Using the DEC Recommended Practices
- <u>Early Childhood Recommended Practice Modules</u>

Looking for Additional Resources?

<u>Resources to Support Inclusive Practices</u> is a collection of free resources. It includes articles, videos, research, and more on a range of topics. If you're looking for information on environments, interactions, or evidence-based practices that support children with and without disabilities, take a look.

