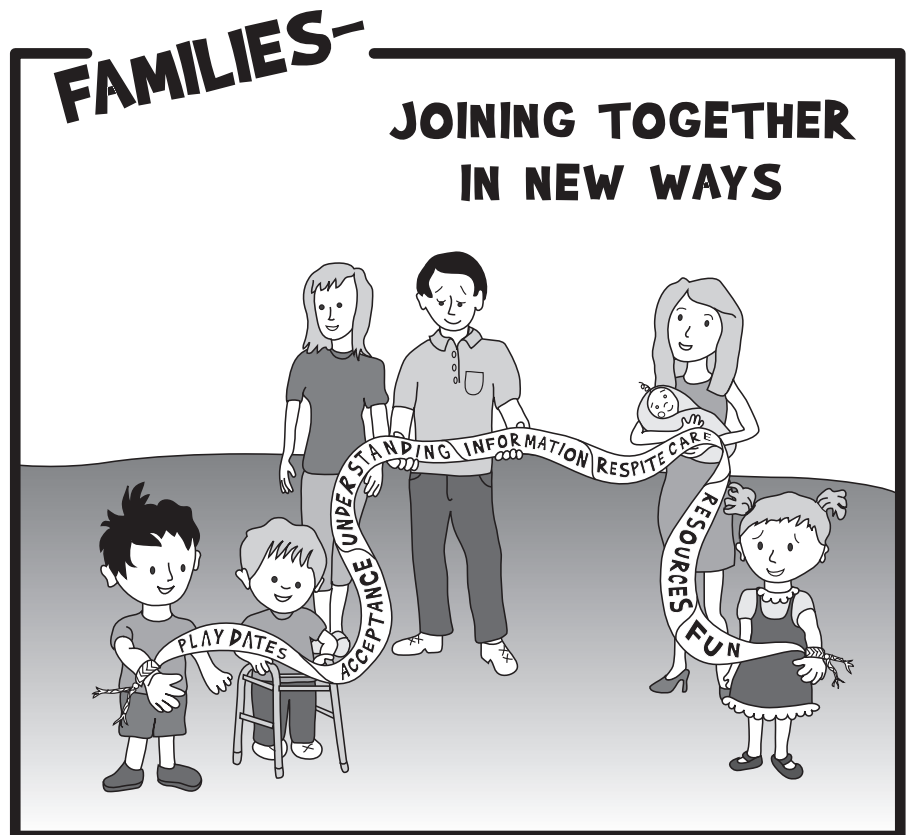

Including All Children

supporting preschool-aged children with disabilities



Name: _____

Site: _____

Trainer: _____

Date of Completion: _____

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FAMILIES — JOINING TOGETHER IN NEW WAYS

This Skill-Building Journal accompanies the *Preschool Including All Children/ Families — Joining Together in New Ways* Module. You should read the Module before starting any activities.

In this *Preschool Skill-Building Journal*...

- ❑ You continue to BUILD your knowledge base about how to work with the families of preschool children with disabilities
- ❑ You COMPLETE activities to help you effectively put your knowledge into practice
- ❑ You have lots of opportunities to SHARE your thoughts with your colleagues and your Trainer



LEARNING ACTIVITY

Understanding and Comparing Your Cultural Traits

A family's culture affects almost everything it does. Teachers who are culturally sensitive are aware of their own cultural traits, and how they differ from those of the families they work with.

Directions

- MAKE a copy of this page before you begin.
- GIVE the copy to a colleague; choose one with a different background from you if possible. ASK your colleague to complete the form.
- READ and answer the statements below.
- COMPARE and DISCUSS with your colleague why your responses are the same or different.

When I go to a parent conference I:

- Go by myself
- Go with my spouse
- Go with a friend
- Bring several relatives or friends
- Bring my children
- Other

When I was a child I was taught:

- To look adults in the eye when I was speaking to them or they were speaking to me
- To turn my eyes away when speaking to an adult

When standing and speaking with another adult I am most comfortable:

- Standing 18 inches to 1.5 feet from them
- Standing 2 to 4 feet from them
- Standing more than 4 feet from them

When I was a child at the dinner table:

- Everyone was expected to contribute to the conversation
- Usually only the adults spoke



I shared my responses to this activity with _____ on _____
colleague date

Directions

- COMPLETE the statements below.
- Use the Answer Key to COMPARE your answers with the samples provided.

1. If five or more adults and several children showed up for a parent conference with me, I would _____

2. If I learned that a sibling of a child in my care has a disability and was being hidden at home, I would _____

3. If I noticed that a child never speaks at snack or meal at my program, I would _____

Share your responses with a colleague and get his/her feedback.



I shared my responses to this activity with _____ on _____.
colleague date

ANSWERS

1. **If five or more adults and several children showed up for a parent conference with me,** I would welcome them and thank them for showing such an interest in the child.
2. **If I learned that a sibling of a child in my care has a disability and was being hidden at home,** I would let my director know about the situation. Together we could decide how to approach the family.
3. **If I noticed that a child never speaks at snack or meal during my care,** I would tell the family about my concerns. I would ask about family expectations of talking at meals. If the family tells me that they don't encourage conversations at meals, I would explain that meals are a time when we practice language at preschool. I would work with the family to make a plan to help the child adjust to different expectations at home and school. If the family expresses similar concerns about their child's language development, I would encourage them to contact the agency responsible for screening children for disabilities. [In most states, the public school is responsible for screening preschool children. In some states, it is Early Intervention.]