



ORIENTATION TO DISABILITY

Introduction

Introducing the concept of inclusive programming is the initial training for all center-based and Family Home Child Care staff, including those who do not work directly with the children (kitchen help, bus drivers, receptionists, Family Home Child Care family members, etc.).

The Trainer invites all parents of enrolled children to a similar, separate training.

Because of constant changes in staff and those enrolled, it is recommended that the Trainer schedule the Orientation to Disability workshops on an ongoing basis. For example, a large program might conduct this training every quarter throughout the year. A smaller program might schedule it once or twice a year.



Themes

- Access
- Participation
- Community

What the Participants Will Learn

- How federal laws protect the right of children with disabilities to participate in early childhood settings with their peers
- How everyone benefits from inclusive programs
- How teachers can use their current skills to care for and teach children with disabilities

Key Points to Discuss with Participants

- The building blocks of inclusion (accommodation, partial participation, reciprocal relationships) are important to everyone — not just children with disabilities.
- Children with disabilities have a lot in common with their peers.
- Separating children with disabilities and their families from typical environments and activities is very isolating for them.

TRAINING MATERIALS FOR ORIENTATION TO DISABILITY WORKSHOPS

What You Will Need

- Flip chart
- Markers
- Form: *French Restaurant Menu* (one for each staff participant)
- Form: *French Menu Terms* (one for each staff participant)
- Pencils with erasers (one for each parent participant)
- Form: *Concentric Circles* (one for each parent participant)
- DVD Player
- DVD: *Including All Children: Using The Skills You Already Possess*