



Helpful Resources: Individualizing in Head Start Classrooms

Here are some useful resources to help teachers plan for and implement intentional and individualized teaching within the classroom. Learn practical strategies to help children participate and learn.

Books

Gould, P., & Sullivan, J. (1999). *The inclusive early childhood classroom: Easy ways to adapt learning centers for all children*. Silver Spring, MD: Gryphon House.

This book helps teachers look at the classroom design and set up and make adaptations to better include children with special needs. Learn ways to adapt learning centers and routine activities.

McWilliam, R.A., & Casey, A.M. (2007). *Engagement of every child in their preschool classroom*. Baltimore: Paul Brookes Publishing.

This book includes practical, evidence-based methods for increasing children's engagement in preschool classrooms. It contains lots of useful ideas with enough detail to use in your classroom.

Sandall, S.R. & Schwartz, I.S. (2008). *Building Blocks for teaching preschoolers with special needs (2nd edition)*. Baltimore: Paul Brookes Publishing.

This book describes the Building Blocks framework. Learn how to make curriculum modifications and how to embed instruction in your learning activities and learning centers.

Articles

McCormick, K.M., Jolivet, K., & Ridgley, R. (2003). Choice making as an intervention strategy for young children. *Young Exceptional Children*, 6(2), 3-10.

This easy-to-read article provides a rationale for using choice making with young children. Guidelines and examples are offered to help teachers use this strategy.

Ostrosky, M.M. & Kaiser, A.P. (1991). Preschool classroom environments that promote communication. *Teaching Exceptional Children*, Summer, 6-10.

This article describes seven strategies that teachers can use to create opportunities for young children to communicate their wants, needs and idea. Teachers who include children with speech and language delays will find this article helpful.

Santos, R.M., Lignugaris/Kraft, B., & Akers, J. (1999). Tips on planning center time activities for preschool children. *Young Exceptional Children*, 2(4), 9-16.

This article gives ideas for planning learning centers that offer opportunities for every child. Tips for personalizing or individualizing the activities are provided.