

Head Start
center for
inclusion



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Facilitating Membership in Head Start Classrooms

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Inclusion is not a set of strategies or a placement issue. Inclusion is about belonging to a community – a group of friends, a school community, or a neighborhood.



(Allen & Schwartz, 2001, p.4)

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**“Inclusion is a right, not
a privilege for a
select few”**

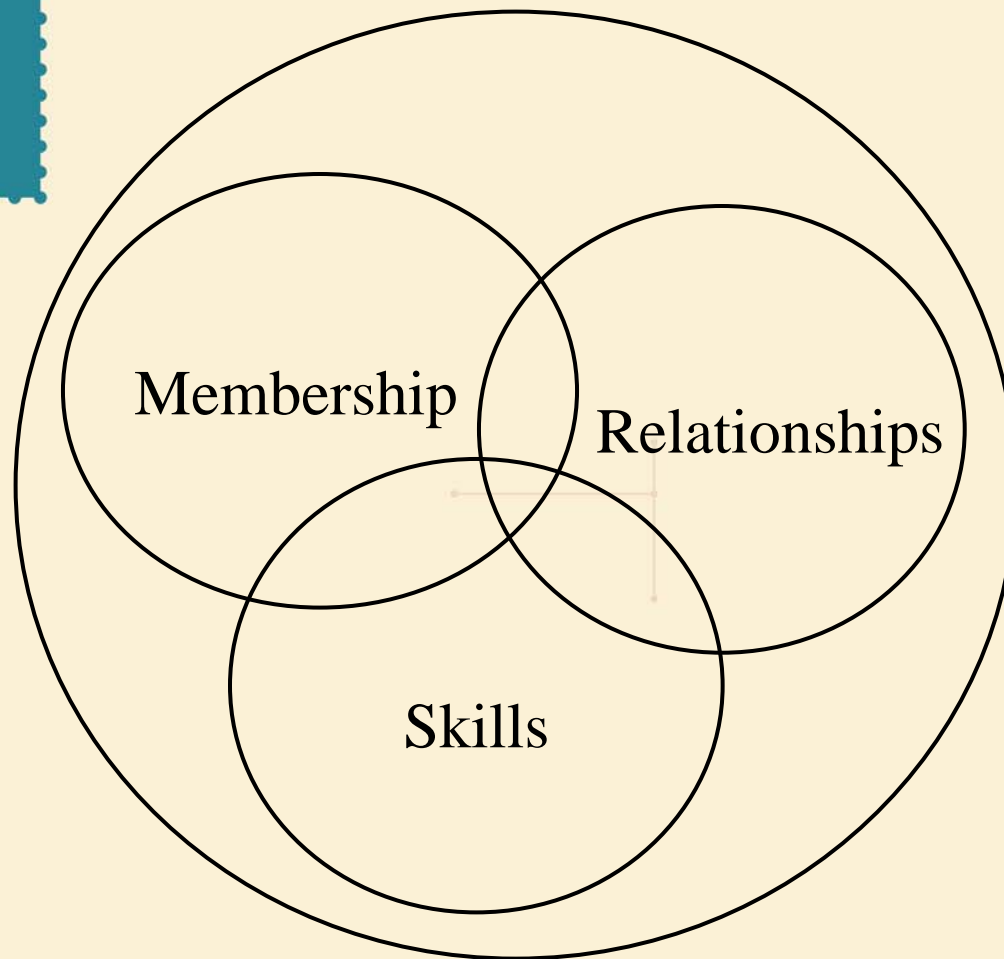
(Oberti v. Board of Education in
Clementon School District, 1993).



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Community of Practice
Participation in valued routines, rituals and activities



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A member is

- Somebody who belongs to and participates in a particular group
- Signs of membership include accommodations that we make to help children participate in groups and activities



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Strategies to facilitate membership

- Assign children to groups at tables that are consistent over time
- Design activities in the classroom that require and support multiple participants (e.g., group art projects, games)
- Encourage children to help each other
- Make sure there is something everyone can do independently



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Have fun and help your
students have fun!

