

Using the HSCI Framework for Teaching Preschoolers with Special Needs:

Module: Curriculum Modifications and Adaptations

Head Start Center for Inclusion Funded by the Office of Head Start Department of Health and Human Services

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Today's Objectives...

- Describe eight different types of curriculum modifications and adaptations
- Show examples of what these modifications look like, and how they be easily used in order to increase a child's access, participation and learning
- Use the planning worksheet to identify and describe the modifications you plan to use for a specific child in your Head Start classroom or program.

HSCI Curriculum Modifications Module





FOCUSED INSTRUCTIONAL TRIALS EMBEDDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES CURRICULUM MODIFICATIONS & ADAPTATIONS **HIGH-QUALITY** EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM





The Foundation

HIGH-QUALITY EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM



Erika

 Erika is a 4 year old girl who attends a full-day Head Start Program. Her teachers report that she has trouble participating during learning center time and in group activities such as circle and small group. Her teachers have been spending extra time with her to try and redirect her and help her to access information, toys and peers.





Erika before...







Moving up the framework

CURRICULUM MODIFICATIONS
& ADAPTATIONS

HIGH-QUALITY
EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM





ACTIVITY: After tending to the foundation...

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HSCI Child Assessment Worksheet

Child:	<u>Erika</u>	Teacher:_	Ms. Janet	Date:	April, 2010

Daily Schedule	Classroom Expectations	Child's Level of Performance	
Opening Circle	Kids sit on their mats. Participate in activities. Eyes on the teacher. Raise hand before talking.	Strength Average Area of ConcernX	
Small Group	Kids sit at tables. Ask for and share materials with other children. Participate in activity.	Strength Average Area of ConcernX	
Outside	Kids explore the playground. Share materials. Play safe games.	StrengthX Average Area of Concern	
Lunch Time	Kids sit at table. Have conversations with peers. Pass food when asked.	Strength AverageX Area of Concern	
Center Time	Kids explore the learning centers.	Strength Average Area of ConcernX	
Songs and Word Play	Sit on mat. Raise hand to talk. Participate in lesson. Eyes on the teacher.	Strength Average Area of Concern_X	
Closing Circle	Sit or lay on mat. Eyes on the teacher. Participate in story and song.	Strength Average Area of ConcernX 9	



Child Assessment Worksheet

- Complete the Child Assessment Worksheet
- Feel free to work in teams or with people at your table



So What is a Curriculum Modification?





Curriculum Modifications & Adaptations

Environmental Support Materials Modification Simplify the Activity Special Equipment Peer Support Adult Support Child Preferences Invisible Support

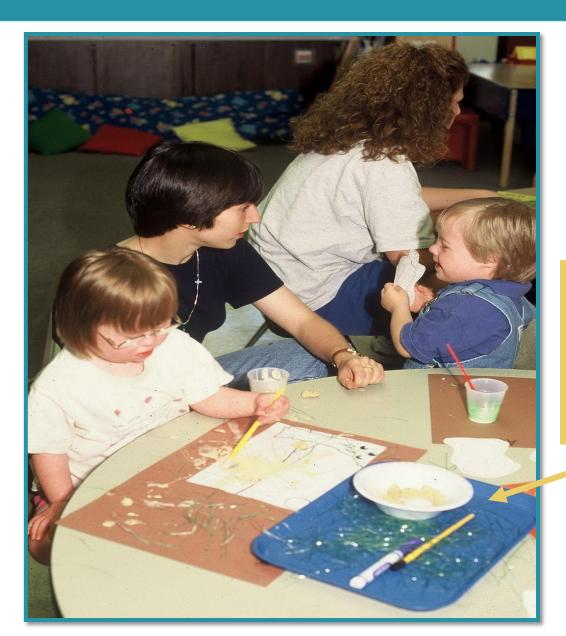


• Environmental support: Altering the physical, social, and/or temporal environment to promote participation, engagement and learning

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Blue plastic tray provides physical/visual support.
Child has more information about where her materials required for the activity are located.

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Child holds chart at circle time featuring reminders of expected behavior









Modify Materials/ Materials adaptation: Modifying materials so that the child can participate as independently as possible





Here a child is not yet using a functional grasp, so a materials adaptation is created by using a table easel to help her keep her hand in the appropriate position.



By building this puzzle on a tray, this child is able to put the puzzle away intact, and continue working on it at a later time.





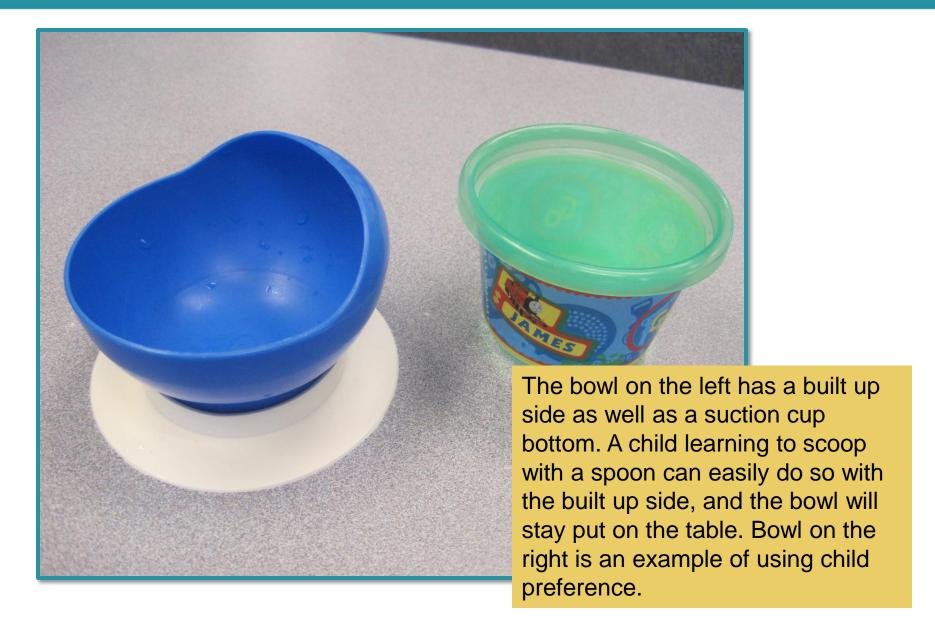
• Special Equipment:
Special or adaptive
devices that allow a
child to participate or
increase a child's
level of participation

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Wooden cube placed under his feet allows his legs to be stable, while still sitting a in a chair high enough to be at the table with his peers



• Simplify the Activity:
Simplifying a complicated task by breaking it into smaller parts or reducing the number of steps

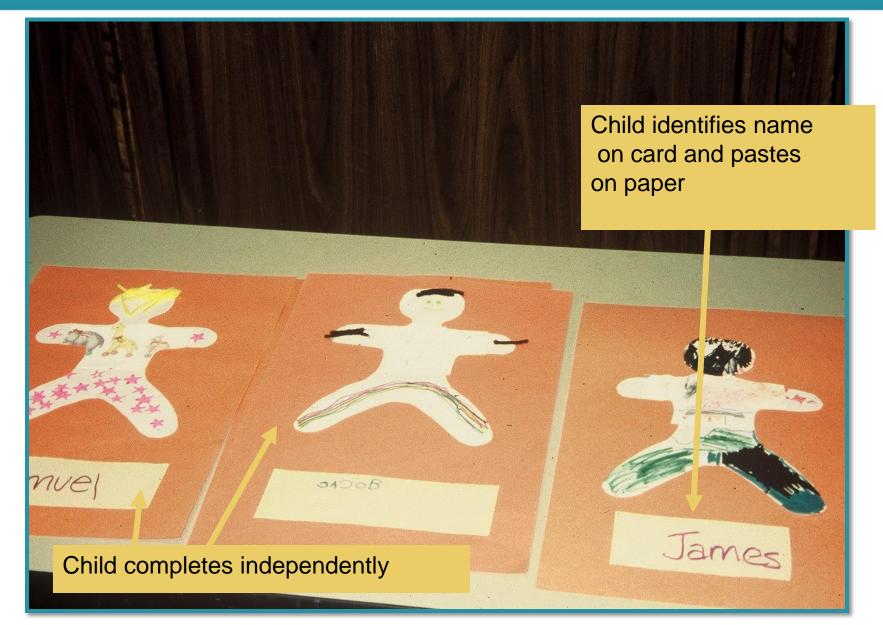




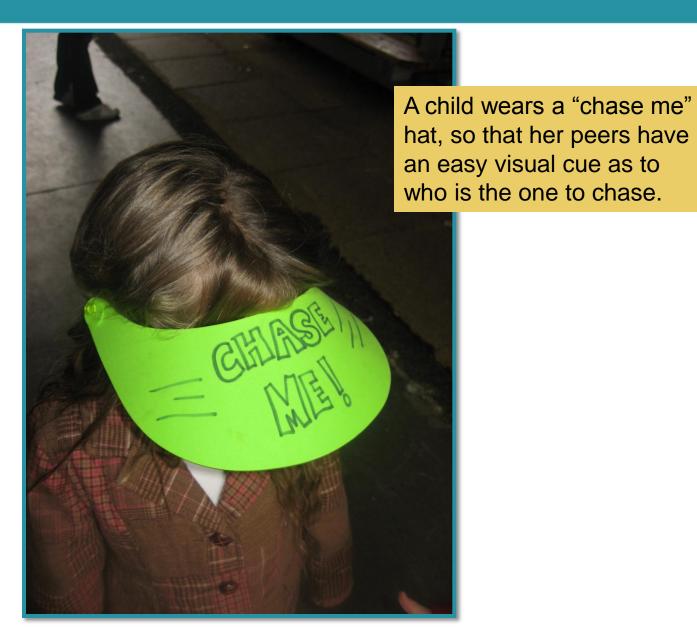














 Adult Support: An adult intervenes to support the child's participation and learning





When a child has trouble engaging with art materials, a teacher provides adult support by engaging with the child and demonstrating how to use the materials.

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Teacher provides choice of toys at circle time, featuring a child's highly preferred toy to increase engagement. She also models the expected behavior by raising her hand.













• Child Preferences:

If the child is not taking advantages of the available opportunities, identify and integrate the child's preferences





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A child who enjoys fire trucks, is more likely to play with peers, when this large toy was introduced.



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A child interested in jigsaw puzzles, gets help from a peer to complete a floor puzzle





• Invisible Support: a purposeful arrangement of materials or naturally occurring events within one activity.



Having children hold hands in a circle during an active song, helps some kids stay with the group.







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A teacher arranges her schedule so that when children are finished with snack, they can begin playing in an open learning center while the other kids finish eating.





Let's take a QUIZ!

NAME THAT MODIFICATION



Which modification has this teacher planned for?

- 1) A child who needs support zipping their coat is placed next to a child who is proficient at zipping...
- 2) A child who has weaker trunk support is given a Rifton chair that supports her on all sides during meal times...
- 3) A child who rarely participates in circle time, but loves music, is eager to join in when the activity begins with movement and dancing...
- 4) A child can't yet cut out a full circle, but is still able to participate fully in the project by only needing to make a few snips with her scissors...
- 5) A teacher has arranged his daily schedule so that after clean-up from the highly enjoyable center time, he begins a short interactive puppet show at circle before introducing the word play lesson.





Group Time







Invisible Support











Peer Support





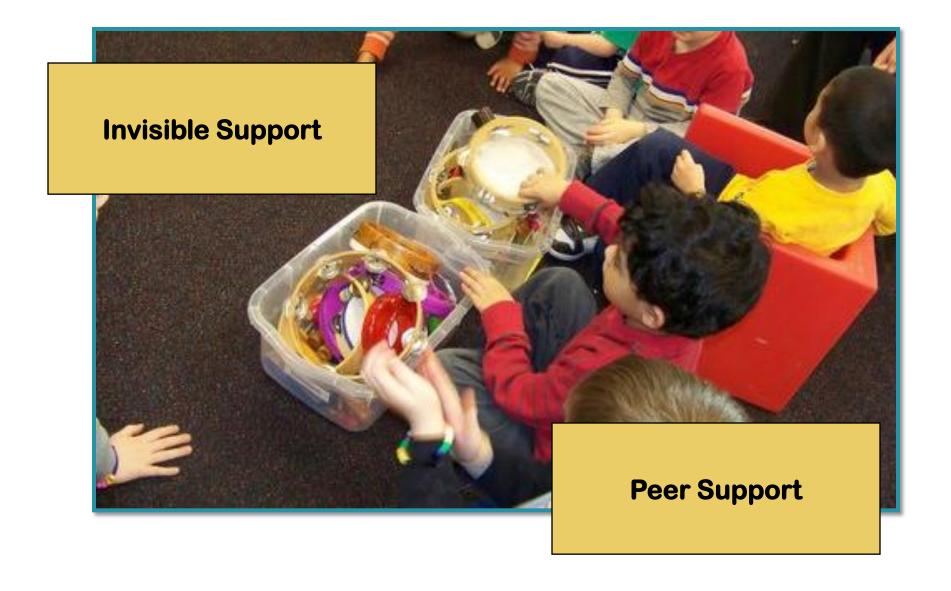






Simplify the Activity















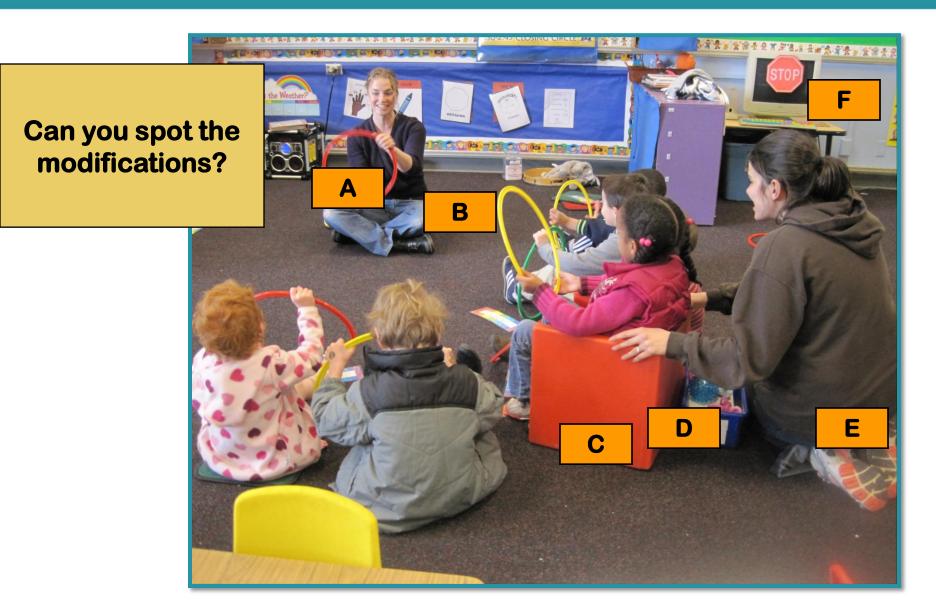
Environmental Support















SNACKS & MEALS













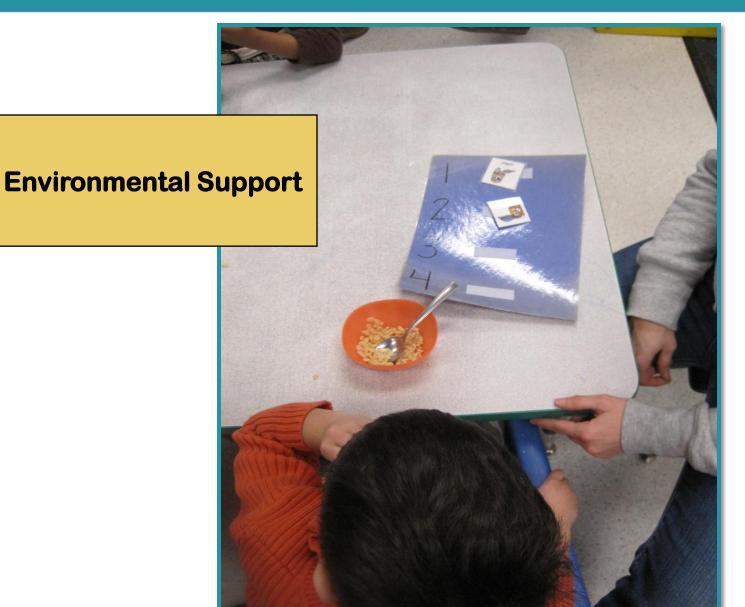


























Learning Centers

















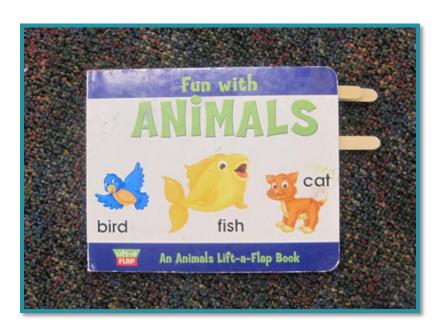


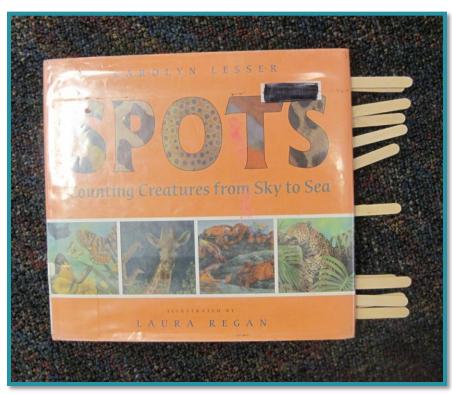
Child Preference

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Materials Adaptation





Computer



























House









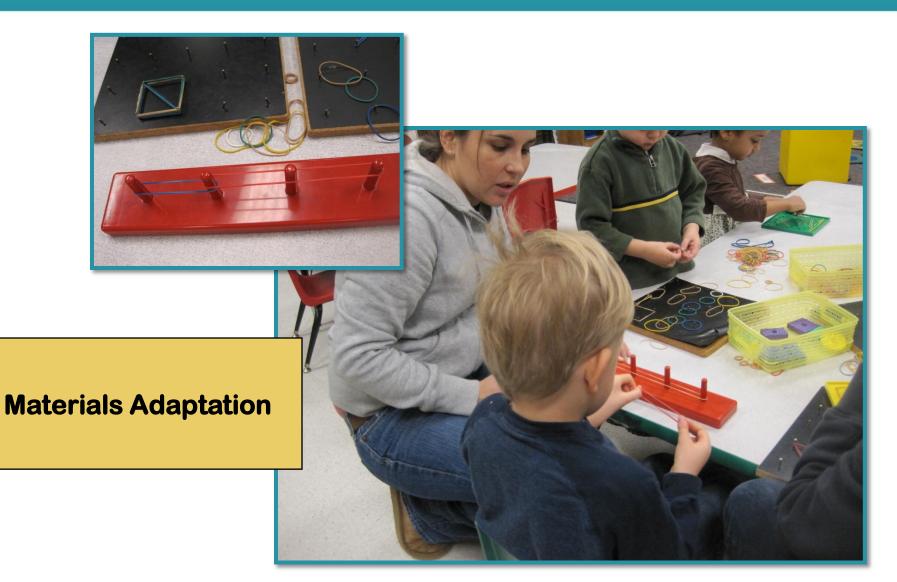


Adult Support













Simplify the Activity





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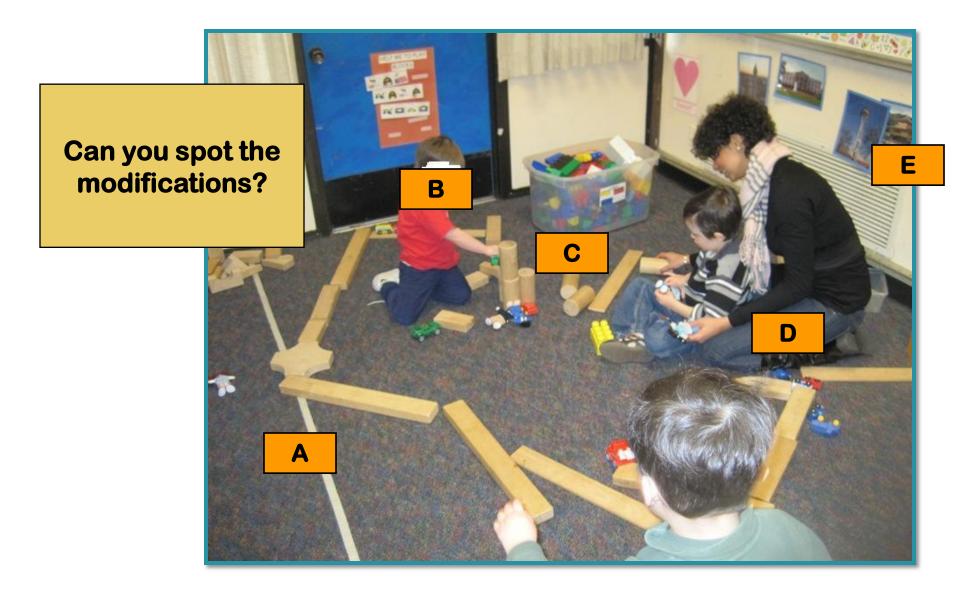






Septemb PLAYCOURT 9:30-9:50 SNACK 9:50-10:30 FREE CHOICE 10:30-10:45 SMALL GROUP 10:45-10:55 CIRCLE - HOME OR DATA







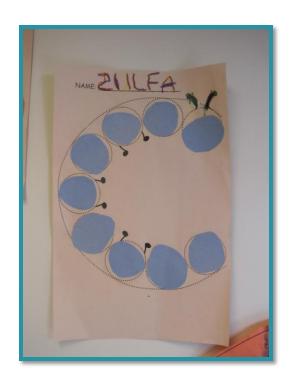


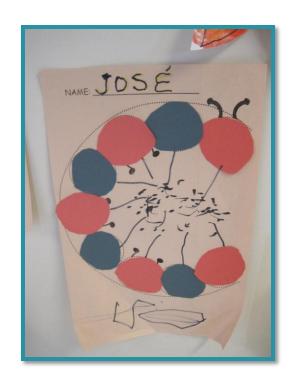
Small Group













Simplify the Activity













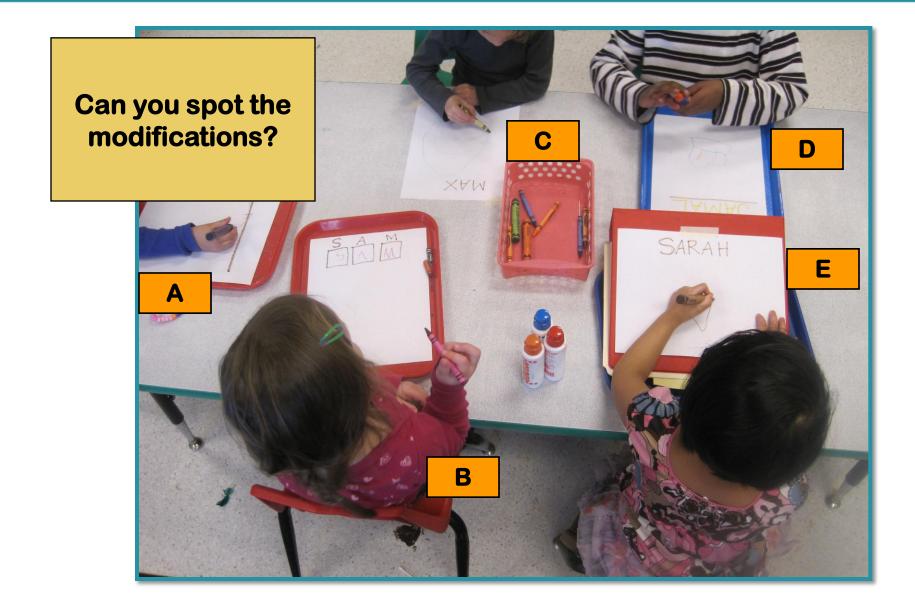














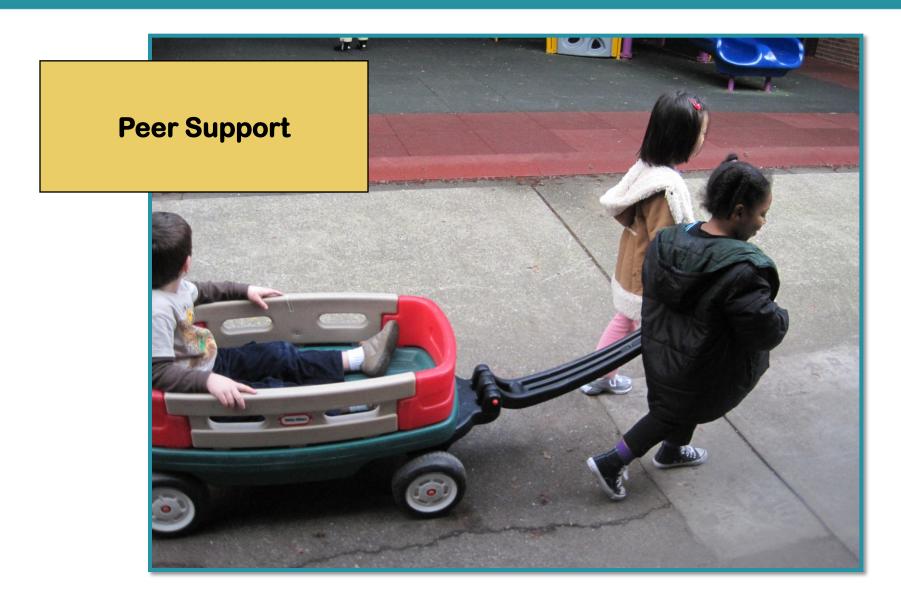


Outside & Gross Motor Time



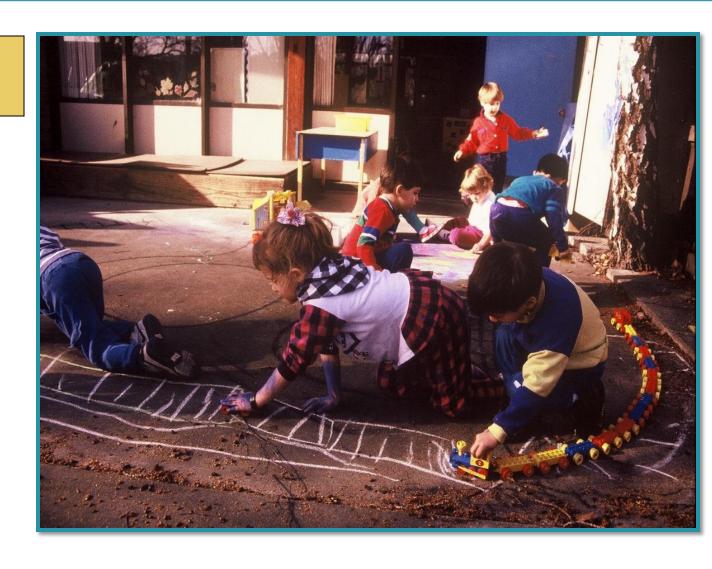








Child Preference













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Environmental Support



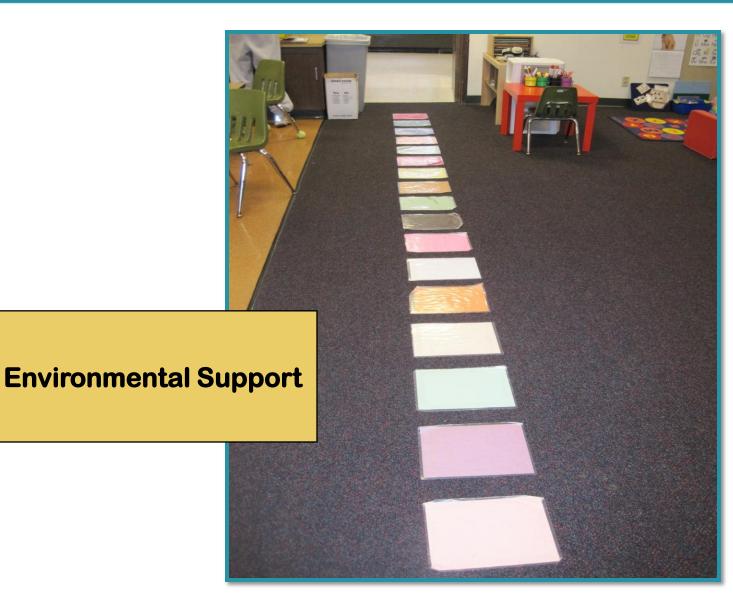




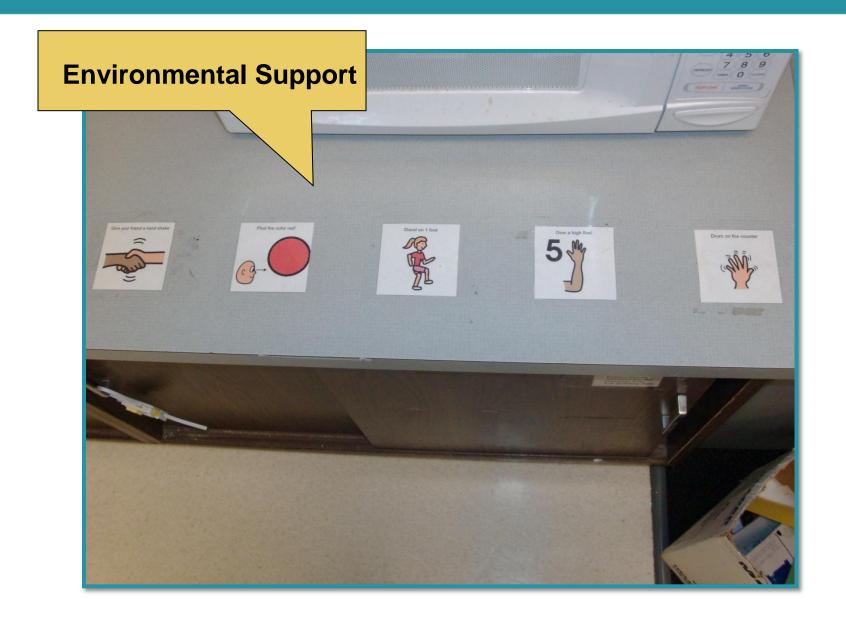


Transitions

















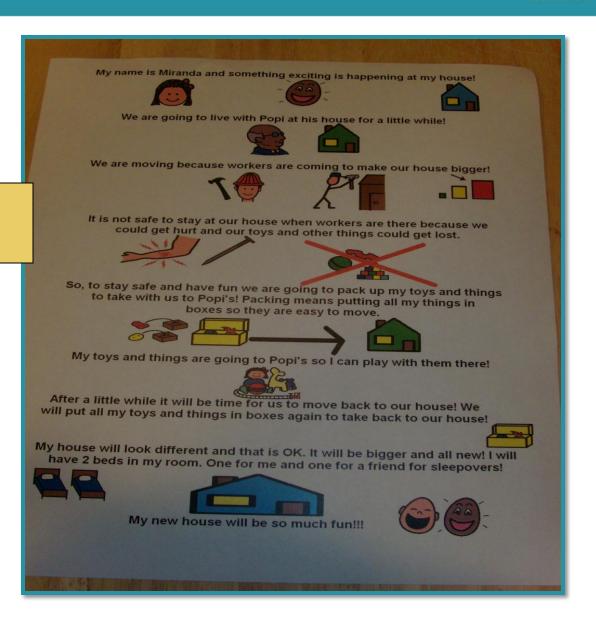




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Environmental Support











Environmental Support







Curriculum Modification Planning Form

Identify three activities in which you would like to focus your attention.

Once you identify the problem, decide which modification you are going to try and then further describe what it will look like.

activity	define concern	what modification might work?		describe what it will look like in your classroom?
		E.A M.A C.P S.A	P.S A.S I.S S.E	
		E.A M.A C.P S.A	P.S A.S I.S S.E	
		E.A M.A C.P S.A	P.S A.S I.S S.E	



Things to think about...

- The simpler the better!
- Does the modification make sense for the problem you are trying to solve?
- Do you have the materials or resources you need to make your modification? If not, do you know where to get what you need?



Action Plan Activity

- What are you going to do?
- What do you need to do to get there?
- Who will create materials?
- When will it be done?

date:	classroom:
Head Start center for inclusion team members:	Team Planning Worksheet

what are we going to do?	what materials do we need?	who will create the modification?	when will it get done?





child's name: Erika teacher's name: Ms Janet date: Spring 2010



Curriculum Modification Planning Form

Identify three activities in which you would like to focus your attention.

Once you identify the problem, decide which modification you are going to try and then further describe what it will look like.

activity	define concern	what modification might work?		describe what it will look like in your classroom?
Circle Time	Erika frequently moves around on her mat and bothers other children during circle time	E.A M.A C.PX S.A	P.S A.S I.S S.EX	Teacher leading circle will shorten circle time and bring in a therapy ball for Erika to sit on during circle time.
Small Group	Erika has a hard time with fine motor tasks and often rips up her paper, throws down her marker or does not use scissors appropriately	E.A M.AX C.PX S.A	P.S A.S I.S S.E	Teacher modifies her work by writing R-I-C-A on her paper before she sits down. When she arrives, she only needs to write the E. Her cutting project will be mostly cut out for her as well. Animal stickers (highly preferred) will also be available at the end of the project.
Center Time	Erika goes from area to area, but does not engage in play for longer than a few minutes. She tends to wander around the room or watch kids work on the computer.	E.AX M.A C.P S.A	P.S A.S I.S S.E	Teachers will make a play schedule for Erika. They will take a picture of each learning center, laminate them and then help her put them in order of where she wants to play at the beginning of center time.



Team Planning Worksheet

team members:

Angela (Teacher)
Jennifer (Assistant)
Malik (Assistant)
Amy (Family Service Coordinator)
Thomas (Supervisor)

what are we going to do?	what materials do we need?	who will create the modification?	when will it get done?
Shorten circle time and incorporate use of therapy ball during circle.	Therapy ball	Angela	Next Monday
Modify name writing each day on paper. Pre-cut art project.	None	Jennifer, daily before class.	Tomorrow
Create play schedule for Erika to use during center time.	Photos or drawings of learning centers, laminate sheets, Velcro, file folder	Jennifer and Malik	Next Friday





Erika after...





Erika's Play Schedule





A moment on individualization...

- What if all the kids want it?
 - Provide access to modifications during other times of days
- Is it fair?
 - Yes. You can present a modification as something that will "help" another child be able to do something that an other child already knows. Keep in mind that you are "individualizing" not giving a special prize to a child. You can say "You already know how to do this! She is still learning and this ball helps her learn."
- What if it becomes distracting?
 - Typically the child's non-participation is already distracting and taking a teacher away from the rest of the group. If the modification works, it will work fast; After the child has learned how to use it, greater independence in this area will be achieved.



REVIEW

- Curriculum modification, the second block in the HSCI Framework, is a change to the ongoing classroom activity or materials in order to facilitate or maximize the child's participation in planned activities and routines.
- A modification to the curriculum is the most effective when your observations tell you that the child is interested in the ongoing activities but is not able to fully participate.
- There are eight types of modifications that can be used.



- Thank you for your participation today.
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