Creating a Calm and Positive Classroom Environment in the Inclusive Setting and Inclusion Strategies

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Special Education Background

- Developmental, Resource, Inclusion, Dyslexia
- Pre K/PPCD inclusive setting - current position
- Parent of children in ECI - transitioning next year
Inclusive setting and inclusion strategies

- Classroom Management in the Inclusive Setting
- Centers that Work for the Inclusive Setting
- Inclusion Strategies for Student Engagement
Classroom Management in the Inclusive Setting

• Build a strong inclusive setting that works for all students
• Teach the students real expectations
• Act as a guide in the classroom while students learn to take responsibility for their learning
• Allow for responsibilities
• Therapist are a wonderful part of our team- keep a list of all suggested activities and strategies and incorporate them into your program
Centers that work for the Inclusive Setting

• Use group mini-lessons to teach in centers
• Create centers that will keep students engaged for a length of time
• Create centers that target IEP goals and objectives
• Allow the students to be responsible for all center materials
• Use mini-lessons to review any needed centers
• Pair Pre K and PPCD students in centers
Classroom Management in the Inclusive Setting

• **Create** a classroom layout that works
• **Create** a classroom where the students desire to be a part of the group and activity
• **Teach** the students that all activities are a privilege
• **Set** and teach expectations at the beginning of the year
• **Assign** student helpers for the students in PPCD
• **Incorporate** mini-lessons about self control and other social interactions on a regular basis
Inclusion Strategies for Student Engagement

- Use the buddy system
- Find activities and learning games that include all children
- Accommodate the Pre K environment
- Be careful of activities that eliminate participation based on ability
- Incorporate physical goals into group/class activities
Gain school wide and community wide support for the inclusive setting

• Participate in the Young Athletes Program (video)
• Attend school wide events
• Benefits to both Pre K and PPCD students in the inclusive setting
• Invite high school students and other elementary student leaders to help in the class
• Participate in Kid-netic Games (video)
Benefits to an Inclusive Setting

Student with disability
- Natural environment
- Peer role models
- Self esteem
- Friends without disabilities
- More stimulation and high expectations

Student without disability
- Knowledge and acceptance of others
- Learn how to work with students with disabilities
- Early education reduces later prejudices