

# Inclusion Is About Belonging



1. Inclusion is the full and active participation of children with and without special needs in community programs (e.g., school, child care, recreation).

2. Inclusion is children with special needs participating in the same routines, play and educational experiences as peers without special needs.

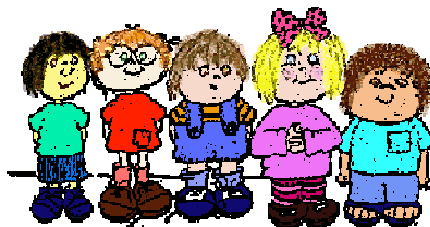


3. Inclusion is considering the interests, strengths, unique characteristics and needs of ALL children when designing environments (e.g., classroom layout, play structures, toys) and planning activities and interactions.

4. Inclusion is everyone (e.g., providers, families, specialists) working together to adapt activities, modify the environment and support the child in interactions with other children.



5. Inclusion is open and effective communication with children, parents and staff to foster understanding and promote belonging.



Adapted from an article by L. Brault, "Inclusive Early Care & Education Programs for Children with Disabilities or other Special Needs", that originally appeared in CAEYC Connections.