

Several new resources that have appeared recently offer new views on and resources for supporting quality inclusion for young children with or at risk of disabilities. See if any of the items below might support your advocacy and professional development efforts.

Content Nuggets Explore Key Ideas About Inclusion

<https://www.eclre.org/good-to-know/understanding-inclusion/>

Early CHOICES and the Early Intervention Training Program at the University of Illinois recently launched a new series called *Understanding Inclusion*. Each “nugget” includes bite-size videos with embedded resources and activities to help understand, promote, and advocate for inclusion for children birth to age 5. Content was developed with families to ensure that they would be useful to families, practitioners, service coordinators, educators, and administrators in early intervention and early childhood. Each topic has a guide to support understanding and provide resources on the topic. Topic guides can be used as a companion tool for the learner and as a stand-alone tool to help facilitate discussions and extended learning opportunities. The topics are: Inclusion Is a Journey, Least Restrictive Environment, Commitment to Inclusive Practices (Law, Policy), Benefits of Inclusive Practices, Inclusive Settings, and Implementing and Advocating for Inclusion. Resources are in English and Spanish.

Advocate’s Guide to Transforming Special Education: Creating Schools Where All Students Can Thrive

<https://reports.innovateschools.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/An-Advocates-Guide-to-Transforming-Special-Education.pdf>

The goal of this guide is to help parents and advocates understand what educational opportunity truly looks like for students with disabilities. It highlights what research and the highest-performing schools have found are the best practices to help students with disabilities achieve at high levels. Concrete examples, interviews, and school profiles show what this looks like in action.

Three New Videos in the Why Inclusion Series

The **STEMIE Center** recently released three videos on why inclusion is important.

- Part 1: Let’s Change Attitudes and Beliefs shares what research tells us about high-quality inclusion. <https://stemie.fpg.unc.edu/why-inclusion-video-series-part-1-let%E2%80%99s-change-attitude-and-beliefs>
- Part 2: Key Characteristics of High Quality Inclusive Education focuses on the features that are essential for quality inclusion <https://stemie.fpg.unc.edu/why-inclusion-video-series-part-2-key-characteristics-high-quality-inclusive-education>
- Part 3: Social Outcomes in Inclusion highlights results that go beyond academic achievement to share what it takes to be fully included in life. <https://stemie.fpg.unc.edu/why-inclusion-video-series-part-3-social-outcomes-inclusion>

Why Focus on Quality Inclusion as Part of Statewide Pyramid Model Implementation? – A Whitepaper

https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/docs/Why-quality-inclusion_whitepaper.pdf

This white paper provides information on the importance of inclusion and how the Pyramid Model might be used in statewide initiatives to increase the use of inclusive practices. As an added bonus there’s a section with resources and tools related to inclusion on page 4.

A GUMDROP About Inclusion

Maybe you can use this gumdrop to support understanding for more opportunities for inclusion in all aspects of our everyday lives. It’s called **Ticket Without a Seat** <https://youtu.be/s7Jgm17ON6Y>

Natural Resources is a free, one-way listserv that is distributed monthly. Each issue features high quality, readily available, and free resources on a specific topic related to children from birth through Grade 3, their families, and the professionals who serve and support them. **Resources in Spanish are highlighted.** Natural Resources is compiled and distributed by Camille Catlett, and past issues are archived at <https://scriptnc.fpg.unc.edu/natural-resources-monthly-newsletter> To subscribe or unsubscribe, suggest resources, or get more information, please contact Camille Catlett at camille.catlett@unc.edu