

What Is Inclusion? Being Accepted, Respected, and Valued

Watch this 60-minute episode of Circle Time Magazine to explore key concepts and strategies related to creating equitable and inclusive early learning environments. Hear from families, teachers, and individuals with disabilities about the importance of inclusion. Access this resource [here](#) (English) or [here](#) (Spanish).

Talking to Children About Differences and Similarities

Children's ability to notice differences and similarities around them is key to their development. This set of resources reveals how adults can support children as they make sense of differences by talking with them about what they observe. Access this resource [here](#) (English) or [here](#) (Spanish).

BONUS: For more resources on supporting children to recognize and thoughtfully learn and talk about similarities and differences, visit the [July 2021 issue of Natural Resources](#).

Disability is Diversity

This article by Courtney Wai from the Spring 2023 issue of *Learning for Justice* emphasizes that embracing diversity means accepting disability as part of the total human experience and being intentional about practices that remove barriers to learning so all children can thrive. Explore the article [here](#).

Play Together: Inclusive Social Interactions

See examples of promoting positive identity and sense of belonging for children with disabilities in this 60-minute Circle Time Magazine video. The video includes experts who share ways to promote friendships between children with and without disabilities. Access this resource [here](#) (English) or [here](#) (Spanish).

Including Disability in Early Childhood Curricula: Evaluating and Using Children's Books

All children need to see themselves reflected in their learning environment. Providing access to and reading books that positively depict disability is a meaningful way to provide representation and facilitate conversations that support understanding and acceptance of difference. Learn strategies for choosing books that accurately and positively depict disability. Explore how to read books and have positive conversations about disability. Read Lori Erbrederis Meyer's article from the Winter 2021 issue of *Young Children* [here](#).

BONUS: Two additional resources on selecting and using books to support children's multiple and intersecting identities are the [August 2021 issue of Natural Resources](#) and [Storybook Conversations: STEM & Disabilities](#), a section of the STEMIE website that includes a book list and guidance on adapting storybooks.

Gumdrop: The Speed Cubers

Prepare to be dazzled and to possibly get some new idea about ability. This [short trailer](#) is available to anyone. Access to the full 40-minute documentary may require a Netflix account or payment.

Natural Resources is a free, monthly, one-way listserv. Each issue features readily available and free resources on a specific topic related to children from birth through age 8 and their families. [Highlighted resources are in Spanish. Los recursos destacados están en español.](#) Natural Resources is compiled and distributed by Camille Catlett. Past issues are archived at <https://scriptnc.fpg.unc.edu/natural-resources-monthly-newsletter> To subscribe or unsubscribe, please contact Camille Catlett at camille.catlett@unc.edu