

# The Inclusive Class Starter Kit

Tips, Checklists and Information  
for your inclusive classroom

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## 10 Easy Changes Teachers Can Make to Facilitate Inclusion

- ☐ **Time** - change the time of day the activity is planned for, the duration of activity, the time of week or even the month.
- ☐ **Space** - change the physical seating arrangement in the class, change the environment (turn off the lights, shut the door or open the windows), change the workspace or even the room (go to the library or sit outside).
- ☐ **Method** – change how the lesson is delivered. Use charts, music, books, props, video or posters. Stand at the front of the class, the back of the class. Have the students remain sitting at their desks, on their desks or sit at a carpeted area.
- ☐ **Materials** – have students produce their work using crayons, markers, paint, modeling clay, computer software, cameras, popsicle sticks, or cheerios.
- ☐ **Product** – change the assignment from writing to drawing, art, music, or drama. Have students create a poster, diorama or power point presentation.
- ☐ **Quantity** – change the number of questions, length of assignment, amount of homework, or ask for odd-numbered answers only.
- ☐ **Groupings** – change how the students are grouped for the lesson. Will they work in pairs, small groups or be independent? Will the student work with a teacher, a paraprofessional or other support personnel?
- ☐ **Grade** – change the grade-level expectations of the activity. Go down a grade or up a grade depending on the student's ability.
- ☐ **Teacher** – yes, change the teacher! Ask the Special Ed teacher to deliver the lesson, a co-teacher, the principal, a parent, or another student.
- ☐ **Resources** – change the resources you use for class activities. Look for new textbooks, web sites, on-line teaching communities and experts. One small, new idea can lead to something big!

## Making Your Classroom Space Inclusive ~ Checklist ~

- Place ALL student desks in small groups
- Have at least one large table for small group meetings or collaborative work
- Provide learning spaces that are accessible to all children. For example, create a Reading Center with shelves that can be reached by any child.
- Create one area of the classroom where all the students can come together to have discussions, develop social skills and participate in large group activities.
- Use classroom decor to support learning but not overwhelm the senses.
- Have a variety of learning materials that appeal to visual, auditory and kinesthetic learners
- Display a visual schedule
- Provide classroom materials that can be used to differentiate the curriculum. For example, offer various leveled books for reading, different types of paper for written work and several methods for communicating (computer, art supplies, and white boards).
- Ensure adequate space for all students to move safely around the room. Clear bulky items, stabilize furniture, tape down wires and cables, and place signs/symbols around the room that point out exit/entry ways in case of emergency.
- Color coding is an easy way to manage classroom groups/activities/ materials without highlighting individual strengths and weaknesses. For example, students can be put in colored reading groups.
- Use timers, music and instruments to help students transition from one activity to another
- Label areas of the classroom or materials with words and pictures

## Ways to Include Students Outside of the Classroom

1. **Lunchtime Clubs** - chess, art, reading, and computer clubs are just some examples of the types of clubs schools offer during lunch or after school.
2. **School Plays and Productions** - there are many roles and jobs for students to take in school productions either behind the scenes or on stage.
3. **Choir/Band** - some schools have their own music classes which offer activities outside of the music program, but districts sometimes offer them as well (which includes all the schools in area).
4. **Sports Teams** - school sports teams generally exist at lunchtime or after school. School districts may also offer district-wide sports teams.
5. **School Helper** - students in older grades are often called upon to show leadership within the school. There may be a formal program in which students can participate in such as collecting attendance, making morning announcements, raising the flag, or helping with school assemblies. If a formal program is not in place, making suggestions doesn't hurt!
6. **Science Fair** - this may be already be a mandatory event for some classes, but if it isn't investigate ways in which all students can participate.
7. **Talent Show** - again, there are many ways in which a student can participate whether he/she has a talent or works behind the stage.
8. **Library Helper** - librarians, pressured by cutbacks, usually appreciate any extra help or support in the library at lunchtime or at recess.
9. **School Newspaper** - the school newspaper or school newsletter offers a variety of jobs for students to do such as writing, editing, layout, illustrating, stapling and delivering.
10. **Field Trips** - offer field trips that are accessible to all students and where able, invite parent participation



# Differentiating, Accommodating and Making Modifications ~Planning Sheet~

	<b>A ACTIVITY</b>	<b>O OBJECTIVE</b>	<b>M MATERIALS</b>
LESSON 1			
LESSON 2			
LESSON 3			



## Strategies for Differentiating, Accommodating & Modifying

### **English**

- Trace
- Yes/No
- Closed Writing
- Matching
- Illustrating
- Word Bank
- Highlight
- Audio Tape

### **Math**

- Manipulatives
- Computer Programs
- Math Fact Sheets
- Calculator
- Number Line
- Visuals
- Books

### **Socials/Science**

- Multiple Choice
- Matching
- Outline
- Reduced Work
- Videos
- Illustrations
- Graphic Organizers





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