

February is **INCLUSIVE EDUCATION MONTH**



Activities for All Ages

2019

Resource Guide

Inclusive Education Month

Inclusive Education Month celebrates the commitment and efforts of teachers, administrators, students and families to include students with disabilities in all aspects of their school community.

Schools and daycares are critically important centres of learning as well as a reflection of our communities. Children are not only taught to read and write but also learn how to interact with, and work alongside their peers.

Research shows that all students learn better in inclusive classrooms. An inclusive school showcases the talents, strengths and capabilities of students, preparing them for a future in which individuals of all abilities live and work together.

"If a child can't learn the way we teach, maybe we should teach the way they learn."

- Ignacio Estrada

Increasingly, inclusive policies and practices are welcoming students of all abilities into age appropriate, mainstream classrooms. In Ontario, Regulation 181/98 lays the foundation for inclusive education, stating that regular classrooms should be the first option for all learners. However, as many as 67% of Ontario students with developmental disabilities remain in segregated classrooms.

About this Resource Guide

This guide has a wide selection of multi-media resources for students, teachers and school administrators. Classroom resources are intended to help students begin to think about disabilities differently and gain a better understanding of how to interact with, include and learn alongside their peers. There are also several pages of resources for educators, including podcasts, TED talks, self-assessment tools and articles filled with practical tips and approaches to inclusive education.

Look for the Link symbol



Throughout the guide, the **link** symbol has been included next to resources that can be accessed online or downloaded to your computer. To open the website, video or download the document, simply click on the title of the resource.



Classroom Resources

Movies and YouTube Videos

 **"Ian"** 
ages 4+

Ian was born with cerebral palsy. All he wants is to make friends, although it seems impossible to achieve when discrimination and bullying keep him away from his beloved playground. However, this young boy is determined and won't give up easily.

 **BONUS:** This short film, "Ian", comes with discussion points for grades K-2 and grades 3-5.

 **I am Tyler** 
ages 11+

Tyler is a typical high school student who loves video games and movies, has a yellow belt in Karate, is a member of the marching band and an actor at his local playhouse. Tyler lives with Cerebral Palsy but he doesn't allow his disability to limit his experiences.

 **The Evolution of Inclusion** 
ages 10+

Shelley Moore talks about how inclusion has evolved over time. From community living, to the neighborhood school movements, this episode helps us to understand what inclusion is by looking at, and learning from, the past as well as challenging our present assumptions.

 **Lea goes to School** 
ages 4+

Lea is a girl living with Down Syndrome who doesn't want to go to a special school, have just special friends and live in a special house, she wants to be like everybody else.

 **Including Samuel ****
ages 7+

In this 58-minute documentary, a father explores what inclusion looks like for individuals with disabilities - including his son, Samuel. The film honestly portrays the family's efforts to include Samuel in every aspect of their lives - at school and at home.



** Copies of these films, as well as Education Guides, are available to borrow from CLKD. Please call 519-396-9434 or email cmc@clkd.ca for more details.



Classroom Resources

Movies and YouTube Videos cont'd

Life, Animated **

ages 9+

The Oscar-nominated 'Life, Animated' documentary tells the remarkable story of Owen Suskind, a young man with autism. For years, Owen struggled to connect with other people. Over time, after repeated viewings of classic Disney animated movies, Owen found tools to help him understand social cues and reconnect with his family. 'Life, Animated' beautifully weaves together Disney animation with scenes from Owen's everyday life to explore how he has learned to understand his feelings and the world around him.

Finding Nemo / Finding Dory

ages 4+

These animated classics feature characters with a range of abilities and challenges. The films can help children think about difference and disability through positive portrayals and humour.

** Copies of these films, as well as Education Guides, are available to borrow from CLKD. Please call 519-396-9434 or email cmc@clkd.ca for more details.

Music



Oxygen to Fly

A teen who is unable to speak has become a rapper "You should always rise to be able to do what you want. And you know, never let the opinions of others hold you back."

Renegades by X Ambassadors

This video profiles several individuals with physical disabilities, including the band's keyboard player, Casey Harris, who is blind.

True Colours by Matty BRaps

This Cyndi Lauper cover features MattyB's younger sister who has Down Syndrome. The rap lyrics and video highlight the pain of bullying and the power of friendship.



Classroom Resources

Books

Meet Will & Jake *ages 3+*

"Will and Jake are best buds. They have a lot of fun together, and like a lot of the same things. They are different in some ways though. Jake was born with an extra chromosome. This means he has Down syndrome, and he learns some things differently. That's okay though, Will doesn't mind and he appreciates what Jake brings to their friendship."



Don't Call Me Special: A First Look at Disability *ages 3+*

Younger children can find out about individual disabilities and special equipment that is available to help people with a disability live happy and full lives. Titles in this series for younger children explore emotional issues that boys and girls encounter as part of the growing-up process.

El Deafo *ages 8+*

Going to school and making new friends can be tough. But going to school and making new friends while wearing a bulky hearing aid strapped to your chest? That requires superpowers! In this funny, poignant graphic novel memoir, author/illustrator Cece Bell chronicles her hearing loss at a young age and her subsequent experiences with the Phonic Ear, a very powerful—and very awkward—hearing aid.

A Friend Like Simon *ages 6+*

This is a special education children's picture book that introduces autism and encourages other children to be mindful and patient of the differences that exist and to also appreciate the positive contribution that a child with autism can make to the group.

My Friend Isabelle *ages 2+*

Isabelle and Charlie are friends. They both like to draw, dance, read, and play at the park. They both like to eat Cheerios. They both cry if their feelings are hurt. And like most friends, they are also different from each other. Isabelle has Down syndrome. Charlie doesn't.

Resources For Educators



Podcasts

Is The Public School System Working for Kids with Special Needs

How well is Canada doing with inclusive classrooms for children with special learning needs?

Inclusion is More than a Program

This episode of the Inclusive Class Podcast discusses how schools can foster inclusive attitudes and beliefs through emotional and relational development in students.



Social Inclusion

Inclusion on the Playground

Inclusive schools should be places where children learn but also play. Playgrounds and unstructured play time are often the centre of a child's social world. Get ideas on how to help facilitate social interaction and acceptance on the playground.

Helping Socially Isolated Students Make Friends

Students with disabilities are often socially isolated at school. Rick Lavoie shows how classroom teachers can play an important role in the child's development of social competence and friendship skills.

Social Inclusion Framework

Created by the Special Olympics Project UNIFY, this resource document provides guidance for promoting successful, socially inclusive practices in schools and communities.

Inclusive Education - the Foundation for Friendship

Inclusion alone doesn't guarantee friends, but it can provide a foundation for accepting differences and fostering positive relationships. Read about a variety of ways that educators can support the possibility of friendship between students.

Resources For Educators

Presentations

What are the Benefits of Inclusion?

Dr. Shelia Bennett and Dr. Tiffany Gallagher delivered this presentation to the Avon Maintland District School Board in February 2017. They look at benefits and outcomes for students, peers, educators and school leadership.

Inclusion from the Heart

A transcript of a bilingual (English and French) speech delivered by Alice Bender, an educator from Montreal, that shares her own journey towards inclusive schooling.



Assessment Tools

Quality Standards for Inclusive Schools Survey

This comprehensive online instrument, developed by Stetson and Associates, can help schools review current practices, policies and knowledge relating to inclusive education.

Accessible education for students with disabilities

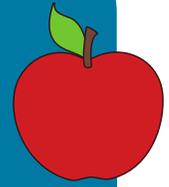
The latest Guidelines set out the context for making schools accessible to learners with diverse needs. It described the principles and the practices needed to meet the requirements of the Human Rights Code. Most importantly, it sets out the implications of the “duty to accommodate” and defines “undue hardship”. The Guidelines suggest how schools can meet individual needs while ensuring inclusion.

KIT's Inclusion Checklist

Creating and maintaining fully inclusive programming requires work and planning. Kids Included Together (www.kit.org) developed this self-assessment checklist to help organization see how they are doing.

Resources For Educators

Videos and Youtube Clips



Five Steps to an Inclusive Classroom

A lighthearted animated look at what inclusive education looks like.

'Teach Us Too'

This short film, created by Jonathan Bryan, is primarily intended for professionals working with children with significant disabilities. Jonathan has spearheaded a campaign to promote literacy and learning for children of all abilities.

Isn't it a pity? The real problem with special needs

Torrie Dunlap, inclusion expert and CEO of Kids Included Together, believes that we need to change our thinking when it comes to children with disabilities. Children with disabilities are marginalized in our schools and communities with the best intentions but in the end, it harms rather than helps. What we really need to do, she suggests, is question why our "regular" activities aren't designed to accommodate kids of all abilities.

'The world needs all kinds of minds'

Professor Temple Grandin is a tireless advocate for those who think differently. In this TED talk, she shares her ability to 'think in pictures' which helps her to solve problems that neurotypical brains might miss. She argues that we need to nurture all types of thinkers - pattern thinkers, verbal thinkers, visual thinkers - in order to solve problems, prevent disasters and accomplish objectives.

'Don't Limit Me'

Megan Bomgaars' heartfelt and passionate message - 'Don't limit me' - is important for all teachers and educators to hear. Let's raise expectations and believe that everyone has the capacity to learn within inclusive schools.

Resources for Educators

Articles and Documents

If Inclusion Means Everyone, Why Not Me?

The report is the culmination of a year-long collaboration involving Community Living Ontario, Western University, Brock University, ARCH Disability Law Centre, Brockville and District Association for Community Involvement, and Inclusive Education Canada.

Advancing Inclusive Education: Keys to Transformational Change in Public Education Systems

Released by Inclusive Education Canada, this document includes ten keys to school transformation, successful case studies and calls to action for students, parents, teachers, school principals and the community.

Including Students with Exceptionalities

Dr. Shelia Bennett discusses the role of the school in promoting acceptance of students with exceptionalities. She recommends approaches that promote successful inclusion within educational settings - not just in classrooms but in hallways and staff rooms.



5 Signs That A Classroom is Inclusive

Traditional classrooms and inclusive classrooms differ significantly in the way students receive their education. There are differences in overall educational philosophy, instructional strategies and resources to support learners. This article talks about what you will see inside inclusive classrooms.



Community Living Kincardine & District

CLKD provides person-centred services to individuals with developmental disabilities, supporting them to explore and achieve their personal goals, dreams and ambitions.

Founded in 1963, CLKD has a rich history of advocacy, outreach and community-based supports. In partnership with families and the community, CLKD promotes and facilitates the full participation and inclusion of people who have a developmental disabilities.

Did you know? CLKD supports more than 150 individuals, including infants, children, adults and families in our community.

Together, we can create an inclusive, caring community where all people belong and have equal opportunity to participate.

For more information contact

COMMUNITY LIVING
Kincardine and District
Inspiring Possibilities

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