

BUILDING BLOCKS

A Newsletter for Teachers Working with Infant, Toddler
and Preschool
Educational Equity For All

March 2020



Center for Community
Inclusion and Disability Studies

GROWING IDEAS TIPSHEETS AND RESOURCES FOR GUIDING EARLY CHILDHOOD PRACTICES

Welcome to the growing ideas tipsheets and resources. This collection of resources was developed based on current evidence that quality inclusive care and education can only happen if there is a foundation of high-quality, regular education practices (sandall & schwartz, 2008). These materials offer early childhood and school age care professionals information on a variety of topics in the form of tipsheets, resource pages, and an expanded virtual toolkit.

Each tipsheet is designed to be a starting point, providing basic topical information and pointing the reader to some of the best sources of extended information on the topic. The growing ideas virtual toolkit offers a professional development activity and featured resources for individual or group training or to share with parents and others.

These resources are free and can be used for educational purposes. Topics include: developmentally appropriate practice, universal design, behavior, assessment basics, and more.

Tipsheet Categories Are:

- Foundations Of Inclusive Early Care And Education
- Social-Emotional Development
- Program Planning And Administration

<https://ccids.umaine.edu/resources/ec-growingideas/>



Aku Ring
These soft, super flexible seven inch diameter rings feature a unique nipple studded surface that makes grasping and catching easy.



Supporting early childhood education professionals worldwide in their efforts to craft thriving environments for children and adults

Free Resources from Exchange

Articles and Resources from the Challenging Behavior series by Roslyn Duffy:

ARTICLE Challenging behavior: Step-by-step sifting - part 1

ARTICLE Challenging behavior: Step-by-step sifting - part 2

ARTICLE Time to Go

Challenging Behavior Template #1 - Conditional PDF

Challenging Behavior Template #2 - Behavioral PDF

Challenging Behavior Template #3 - Behavioral Adult PDF

Challenging Behavior Template #4 - Critical Issues PDF

Challenging Behavior Appendix A PDF

Challenging Behavior Appendix B PDF

Challenging Behavior Appendix C PDF

Challenging Behavior Appendix E PDF

Challenging Behavior Appendix F PDF

https://www.childcareexchange.com/resources/free_resources.php

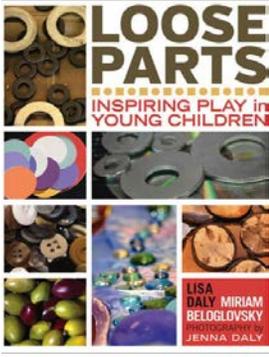


This is what happens when you microwave a bar of Ivory soap! Then you can tear it up, color it, and mold it into shapes! It's not wet and messy, either! This is awesome!

EDUCATIONAL
EQUITY FOR ALL
..... Giving kids what they need to succeed.

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FEATURED IDEA OF THE MONTH



The Loose Parts set of books serve as inspiration with hundreds of beautiful full color photographs illustrating ways children enjoy using everyday items in their play, encouraging their curiosity, giving free reign to their play, and encouraging

creativity. Books are available individually. t.ly/pyAXk

Picture Exchange Communication Systems (PECS) in the Preschool Special Needs Classroom

All Preschoolers Can Benefit

Increasing verbalization in the preschool special needs classroom is on every teacher's mind. Entering at the age of three, many developmentally delayed preschoolers begin school with a limited amount of language skills. PECS pictures, or Picture Exchange Communication Systems can be utilized in the preschool special needs classroom with autistic students, as well as other students with limited communication skills.

The Preschool Picture Schedule

Autistic preschoolers are children who are challenged in communication. Different children will be on many different levels in their development, but all will benefit from some language reinforcement activities. In the early childhood setting, you will most likely begin using picture communication at a very basic level. A schedule using pictures shows children what will happen next.

A Place to Start

Discover what a child's favorite activity, food, or toy is, and make PECS pictures that represents that item. Give the card to the child to hold and encourage him to give you the card when he wants the activity. Ask at an appropriate time, so that he may also learn when the item is available.

Since many autistic children have trouble understanding that they can make their own choices and communicate them to others, using pictures to represent a chosen item is beneficial in helping the child make choices, and then communicating these choices to parents or teachers.

Once the child begins doing this, move further away so that the child must walk over to you and hand you the card. You'll be teaching the child that he must sometimes obtain someone's attention when he wants something.

WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

t.ly/zNL13
t.ly/kN8AY
t.ly/3GNDM



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



California Association for the Education of Young Children



2020 CAAEYC Annual Conference & Expo

April 23-25, 2020

Pasadena, CA

<https://caeyc.org/>

THE CHAOS AND THE CLUTTER



Inexpensive and Easy to Make

Sensory walls provide an opportunity for rich sensory exploration. They give tactile, visual, and auditory sensory input. They are an invitation for children to explore through their senses and discover more about their own sensory preferences.

It is important for kids to learn about the sensory systems and sensory preferences. As kids explore through touch, they will find texture they like and ones they don't. <https://www.thechaosandtheclutter.com/archives/diy-sensory-wall>



High Five Mathematize: An Early Head Start and Head Start Math Resource Guide

t.ly/DXj2D