

# Inclusive Education

**By: Margaret Lee**

What is inclusion?

# Definition of Inclusion

Google Definition...

The practice or policy of providing equal access to opportunities and resources for people who might otherwise be excluded or marginalized, such as those who have physical or intellectual disabilities and members of other minority groups.

Better definition from National University shows the impact of what inclusion can have...

“Inclusion in creates a sense of belonging among co-workers that can translate to greater productivity, more innovation, and better decision-making. Team performance improves when employees feel more connected. Get everyone pulling on the same side of the rope, and the possibilities for growth and success increase exponentially.”

# Aspects of Inclusion

- Race
- Gender
- Socioeconomic status
- Religious
- Sexuality
- Experiences
- Education
- ...and more play into someone ability and what aspects of accommodations someone needs

What does inclusion look like  
in the classroom?

# Categories of Disabilities

The first aspect of implementing inclusive practices is being aware of various obstacles that students face with disabilities.

Common Disabilities		
Learning Disabilities	Intellectual Disabilities	Physical Disabilities
ADHD	Down Syndrome	Cerebral Palsy
Dyslexia	Autism Spectrum Disorder	Cystic Fibrosis

# Understanding Obstacles

The second aspect of implementing inclusive practices is understanding  
This results in more awareness various obstacles that students face with disabilities.

## Common Obstacles:

- Social Difficulties
- Language Development
- Physical Inaccessibility
- Lack of Individualization
- Negative Attitudes and Stereotypes
- Ineffective Dispute Resolution Mechanisms

# Learning by Experience



# Activity 1: Disability Obstacles

## Station 1: Motor Development

- Grab an oven mitt and write the prompt down on a separate sheet of paper

## Station 2: Expressive Language

- Grab a partner. One of you will put a marshmallow in your mouth and answer a set of questions.

## Station 3: Verbal Short Term Memory

- Grab a partner and make a list of words

More instructions are at each station

5 mins each and then rotate

# Reflection

- What was your favorite part of the activity?
- What was interesting about the activity?
- How did it change your view on the obstacles students with disabilities face?
- How can you use your efforts to help with students?

# Implementing Inclusion

Based on Drexel University the best ways to promote inclusion is through...

- Build authentic relationships
- Understand how students learn
- Promote positive learning environment
- Collaborate as a community
- Include a variety of activities

# Activity 2: Group Collaboration

- Split into groups of 5 to 6 people
- Grab a big sheet of paper, pens or markers
- Answer the question on sheets
- After 10 minutes, a representative from each group we will share out

# Activity 3: Inclusive Action Plan

Take 5 to 7 minutes to

- Reflect
- Educate
- Implement

what you learned today into practice.

Questions?

# References

## Ontario Human Rights Commission

- <https://www.ohrc.on.ca/en/main-barriers-education-students-disabilities-fact-sheet>

## Drexel University

- <https://drexel.edu/soe/resources/student-teaching/advice/Promote-Inclusion-in-the-Classroom/>

## National University

- <https://www.nu.edu/blog/inclusion-in-the-workplace/>