The Unofficial Special Education Preschool Handbook

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Introduction

As a preschool teacher, I have met a variety of different children over time. Each child to me is a blessing to meet in my classroom. I have discovered that each child brings different gifts and abilities into my classroom. I truly enjoy the variety of different children in my classroom each day. This is what drew me into and has kept me in the teaching profession each year.

I view preschool as a continuation of your child’s growth and development before they enter preschool. It may seem like it is too far into the future to consider at this moment. My mind is always on what your child is facing each day in my classroom and at your home along with the future challenges that he or she will face once they graduate from the preschool program. At times, I find that it is almost too easy to forget your child’s disability and the different challenges that they face each day when I see the inner person in your child.

Your child is about to enter into a new adventure in life with a whole new experience. You may have older children who have been in preschool before, or your child could be the first one to enter into preschool. I hope you enter this new stage in life with an open mind. Your child will be given a variety of different chances to learn and grow in a variety of different settings depending on their IEP.

I know your child has grown a lot over the since birth developmental and growth wise before I have ever met your child. I know it took a lot of work to bring your child to this stage of development that I truly enjoy and appreciate each day in my classroom.

I know your child’s new preschool teacher and aides are looking forward to meeting and getting to know better your child. I hope you have a great school year with your child’s new teacher and have a wonderful preschool experience with your child.

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How do I Know if I Made the Right Classroom Placement for my Child?

Each county or school district has a variety of different classroom placements for Special Education children once they reach preschool age. Each classroom is set up to meet a specific set of group’s learning and environmental needs. The question is whether or not you made the correct choice for your child. I recommend getting a list from your Early Intervention provider of possible classroom placements that might work for your child before their IEP placement meeting. The placements will range from being an inclusion classroom with a mix of normal children and disabled children to being in a classroom with all Special Education students who are similar to your child. If you are allowed to, I recommend seeing if you can check out each placement if you have the time to do so.

Resources

www.parentednet.org/publicationPDF/LRE.pdf

[www.wrightslaw.com/info/lre.osers.memo.idea.htm](http://www.wrightslaw.com/info/lre.osers.memo.idea.htm)

Important Free Website Resources

www.babycenter.com

www.babyfirsttv.com/games

[www.cafemom.com](http://www.cafemom.com)

[www.circleofmoms.com](http://www.circleofmoms.com)

www.daycare.com

www.dec-sped.org

www.disneyjr.com/games

[www.easterseals.org](http://www.easterseals.org)

[www.ectacenter.org](http://www.ectacenter.org)

www.education.com

[www.fisher-price.com/en\_US/gamesandactivities/onlinegames/index.html](http://www.fisher-price.com/en_US/gamesandactivities/onlinegames/index.html)

www.fun4thebrain.com/preschool.html‎

[www.happyclicks.net](http://www.happyclicks.net)

www.healthychildren.org

www.kneebouncers.com

[www.nickjr.com/games/index.jhtml](http://www.nickjr.com/games/index.jhtml)

www.p2pusa.org

www.parentcenternetwork.org

www.parentednetworkorg

[www.pbskids.org/games](http://www.pbskids.org/games)

www.pinterest.com

[www.sesamestreet.org/games](http://www.sesamestreet.org/games)

specialchildren.about.com

specialed.about.com

[www.specialolympics.org](http://www.specialolympics.org)

www.sproutonline.org/games

[www.thearc.org](http://www.thearc.org)

www.usvariety.org

www.vsarts.org

[www.wrightslaw.com](http://www.wrightslaw.com)