

Why Inclusion?



Everyone Benefits from Inclusion

Benefits For Children with Special Needs:

- Friendships
- Positive social-emotional skills (the ability to identify and understand one's own feelings)
- Access to peer models for learning academic, social and behavior skills
- Greater access to the general education curriculum
- Increased opportunities to learn from shared experiences
- Improved language and communication skills
- Increased opportunities to practice skills in natural environments
- Held to higher expectations

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Benefits For Children without Special Needs:

- Friendships
- Increased sensitivity toward individual differences
- Provided with opportunities to become the teacher or a role model of skills and behaviors
- Practice being resourceful and creative when they or their peers encounter obstacles
- Develop a positive view of themselves and of others
- Increased opportunities to learn from shared experiences

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Benefits For Child Care Providers:

- Increased knowledge of the services and resources available in the community
- Increased understanding and acceptance toward individual differences and diverse populations
- Opportunities to expand skills, knowledge and professional competence
- Development of an effective teamwork philosophy
- Increased confidence in working with all children
- Improved understanding of the diversity found in a child's development

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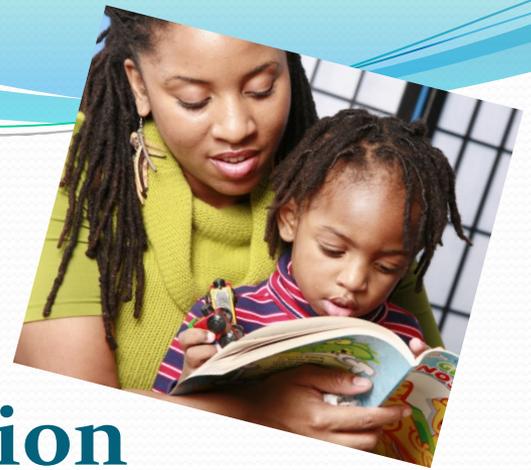


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Benefits For Parents of Children with Special Needs:

- Increased participation in their child's care
- Opportunity to have siblings attend the same center or school
- Increased opportunities to be included in the community
- Improved relationships with child care staff
- Opportunity to meet and share knowledge and experiences with others
- Provides a vision of a typical life for their child
 - One in which their child is accepted, supported and included

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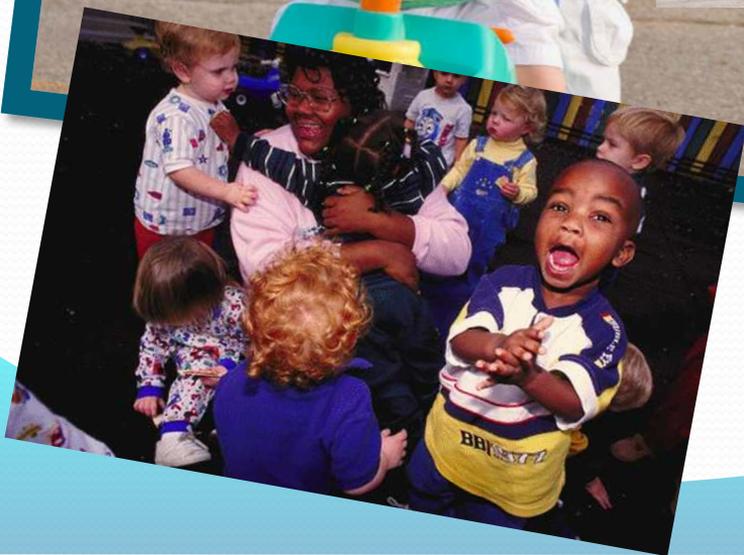


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Benefits For Parents of Children without Special Needs:

- Opportunity to meet and learn about the experiences of families with a different story
- Opportunity to provide their children with an experience free from discrimination
- Opportunity to develop positive attitudes about people with additional needs
- Opportunity to share positive attitudes with others about those with varied abilities

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Why Not?