



Reflect on your own experiences with children, families, and colleagues. If you are an supervisor, administrator, or adult educator, how might you use these questions and activities to help other adults reflect on their experiences?

Seek Multiple Perspectives

Read this story.

“About ten years ago a family with a typically developing child considered enrollment in my program. They weren’t sure if they wanted to enroll her in our fully inclusive program, where she would interact and share a classroom with children with special needs. They researched the benefit, what their daughter might learn: compassion and tolerance, understanding, and a sense of the richness of life. These parents were concerned that maybe she wouldn’t get enough attention. But in the end they decided that the potential benefits were important enough to give it a try. It turned out to be a life-changing decision. At age 12 this little girl joined a community Signing Choir that performs songs in sign language across the nation.” - Director, Patty’s story

Try This!

Locate a fully inclusive ECE program in your community. Make an appointment to visit the program. Talk with members of that community about the benefits of inclusion from their different points of view.

Write down what you learned from the various perspectives and your own impressions from the visit. If you need help finding a program, check with your County Office of Education or Child Care Resource and Referral agency.
