Universal Design, Individualizing, and Family Partnerships

Universal Design

- Multiple means of representation
- Multiple means of expression
- Multiple means of engagement
Universal Design

- What are some of the key concepts in universal design?
- Which concepts were clear to you? Which concepts were confusing?
- What other questions do you have about universal design related to language and literacy?
- What resources do you think would be most helpful to you in your work?

Universal Design

- What information from the presenter(s) caught your attention or stood out for you?
- What are you most confident about in supporting the language and literacy development of children with disabilities? What concerns you?
Universal Design

- What new or different perspectives do you have? How has this presentation been helpful?
- What do you want to keep in mind when you are planning ways to modify or adapt the learning environment and experiences for children with disabilities to ensure their progress in language and literacy?

“Individualization of learning includes all children.”
Individualizing

- What kinds of documentation could you use to help understand individual children in terms of their language and literacy?
- What are some ways you could get to know the families of individual children? About their language?
- How could you learn about the child’s community?
- How could you find out what things a child is interested in?

- What different kinds of information about a child could you obtain by observing during different parts of the daily routine?
- What are some ways you could determine each child’s strengths in his/her language and literacy development?
- How could you use this information to plan curriculum that supports each child’s language and literacy development?
Family Partnerships

• What considerations or ideas about the impact and influence of families on children’s language and literacy development caught your attention?
• Which ones resonated with you because of your experiences with children and families?

Which strategies or interactions do you think are most important to include in order to build strong partnerships with families that foster children’s language and literacy?
• What is a first step you would take in building these partnerships?
• What ideas stood out most for you today?
• Which ones reinforced what you have already learned or experienced? Which ones gave you a new perspective or insight?
• How might you apply a new perspective to your work now or in the future?
• What further information or support do you need?
• What first step do you need to do?

Language and Literacy

➢ Identify research about the importance of reading and sharing books with children to support their language and literacy development.
➢ Prepare a paper or presentation, including:
  • Summary of the research and findings
  • Adaptations for reading and sharing books with children with special needs
  • The role of families in reading and sharing books with their children
  • Considerations in selecting and sharing books that reflect children’s individual interests, strengths, and development