

ADAPTING THE 4 VISUALS

1. The Written Word (Blackboards, Notice Boards, Books, Student's Homework / Assignments)

- **Speak Aloud: Verbalization:** From Black boards by teachers, from books by peers
- **Accessible formats** (Large font, Braille, Soft copy, Audio formats, Taylor Frame, Abacus)
- **Reading student's work:** Written in Braille / computer: Student reads out / Transcription / Access Technologies

2. Graphics & Pictures

- **Description** (Teacher, Peer, Alt Text, Audio Description)
- **Use of Real objects / Models / Modified TLAs**
- **Use of Tactile graphics / Hand tracing**
- **Student describes / Student traces on hand / Student presents tactile graphics**

3. Visual Activity (Art / Craft / Sports / Dance / Lab Work / Activities)

- **Clear instructions / Orientation** (Teacher, Peer)
- **Use of Real objects / Models / Modified TLAs**
- **Use of Tactile graphics and markings / Hand tracing**
- **Physical guidance** (Hand-over-hand / Hand-under-hand techniques)
- **Student describes steps / Lab partner**

4. Outdoor Visuals (Independent Movement, Excursions)

- **Clear instructions / Orientation to environment** (Teacher, Peer)
- **Physical guidance** (Hand-over-hand / Hand-under-hand techniques)
- **Orientation and Mobility** including sighted-guide technique.
- **Buddy System**

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The of Inclusion in Education

WHAT IS INCLUSION?

Persons with disabilities access the world and function independently by using alternate senses to do the same tasks that they would have done with their non-functioning sense.

Inclusion entails accepting that different ways exist of doing the same thing, recognizing whether one perceives the "different" to be less or the same, and acknowledging that it is perhaps one's own perception rather than facts that will either create inclusion or create barriers.



WHY IS INCLUSION IMPORTANT?

In the absence of inclusion, persons with disabilities are deprived of independent dignified living.

Laws Mandate Inclusion



Social Fabric has Denied Inclusion



FACT: Persons with Disabilities have the same variety of interest, aptitude and skills as their able bodied counterparts to live a complete, independent and fulfilling life.

UNDERSTANDING INCLUSION

To create inclusion, the following 10 Principles of Inclusion need to be kept in mind.

1. Accepting Differences : Accepts the uniqueness of each student

No two students are the same. In the same way, no two blind students will ever be the same.

E.g. One may be a genius, another a trouble maker. One may prefer Braille, another Audio.

2. Sensory Substitution: Replacing the use of one sense with another

There are different ways of doing the same thing to achieve the same goal.

E.g. Reading can be achieved through: Sighted Print, Braille, Audio...

3. Multi-Sensory Approach

The same things can be accessed through multiple senses and when a combination of senses is used over a single one, the experience is always richer.

E.g. Using activities in class over merely lecturing enhances learning.

4. Learning by Doing & Experience-Rich Environment

Hands on and experiential learning is proven to be an effective teaching learning technique, more so for inclusive classrooms.

5. Equal Opportunities

Inclusion is about making complete education accessible not about making it concessionary.

6. No Sixth Sense / Special Abilities / Special or Defective Cognition

In the absence of a functioning sense, other senses sharpen only with practice not as a gift!

E.g. A blind student may have sharper hearing simply because he uses it more, just as a right handed student with a right hand fracture starts using his left hand better.

7. No Clutter, Clutter confuses

Clean and non-cluttered presentation of information aids everyone.

E.g. A tactile diagram that replicates everything from its sighted counterpart v/s a cleanly drawn and labeled tactile diagram.

8. Universal Design for Environment: Usable by all

Inclusion is for all not only for person with disabilities.

E.g. Keeping things in their place, Doors and Windows open or shut, Bright and clear lighting. Enriched Classrooms.

9. Communication: Clear and Verbal (More applicable to persons with blindness)

A strict no to “this”, “that” without any accompanying verbal clear message.

Remember (s)he is not “seeing”. No concern with saying “I will see you tomorrow”. Difference in literal non-meaningful communication, and well-intentioned meaningful communication.

10. Orientation and Mobility: Based on Facts v/s Myths

Blind persons and students live independently. Dependence gets created with fears and myths not facts. Hence it is to be discouraged.

THE HOW OF INCLUSION

WHAT REMAINS THE SAME?

You teach; the student learns.

You explain; the student understands.

Intelligence is not affected by lack of sight.

The student can read, write, solve problems, access graphics, follow instructions, be creative.

WHAT IS DIFFERENT?

The only thing that is different is ADAPTATIONS OF VISUALS

4 Key Visuals:

The Written Word, Graphics & Pictures, Visual Activity & Outdoor Visuals