



May
2019

Environmental Practices in Early Childhood Education

Susan Shinn, Ed.D.
Patty Matthews, Ed. S.





Bell Work

In developmentally appropriate classrooms, children explore, experiment, solve problems, while working with classmates.



Discuss the meaning of this statement with your elbow partner. Then identify ways this is done in classrooms.

ADD A FOOTER

What does Environment Mean?

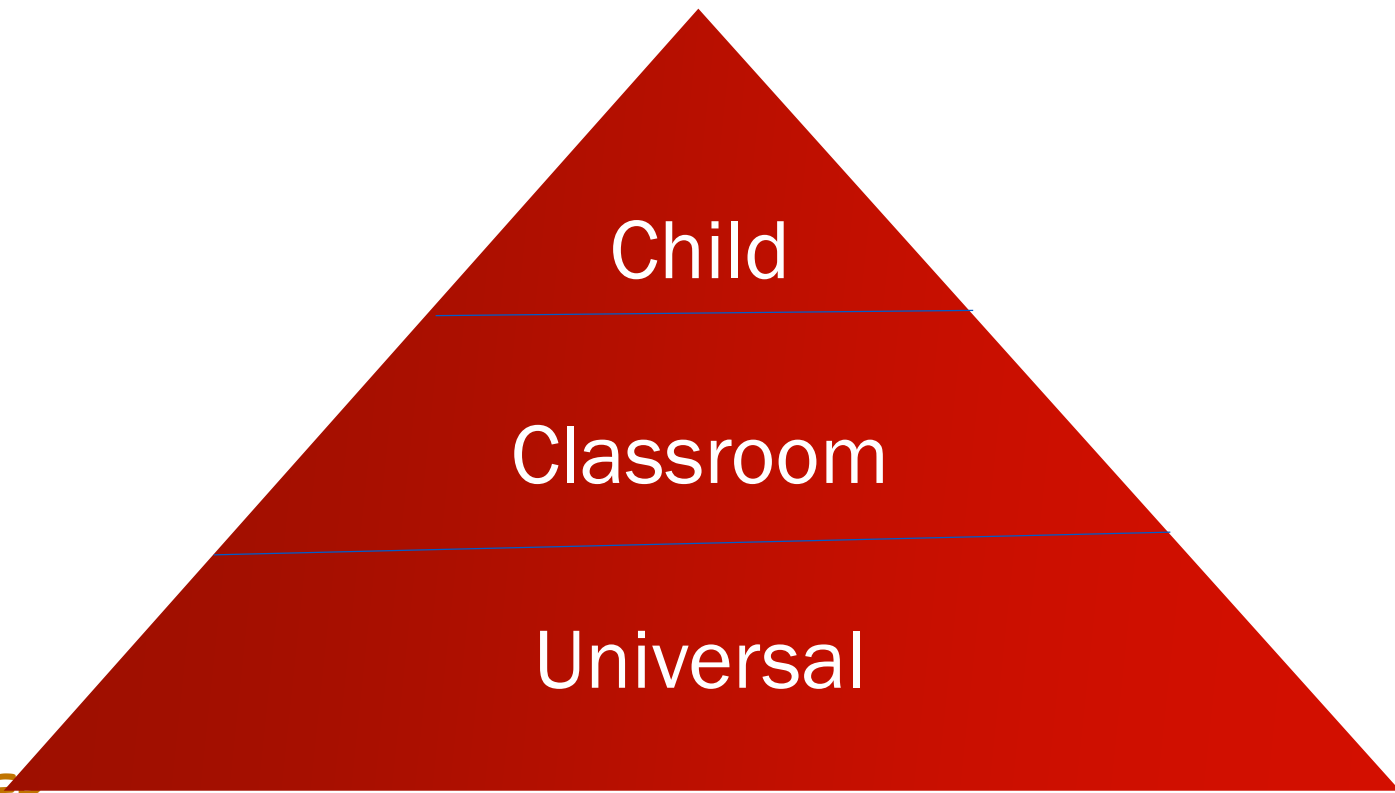
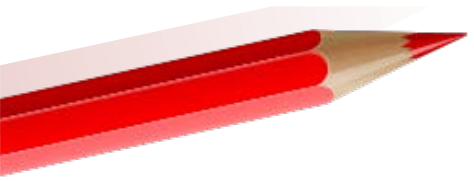
Environment refers to:

1. Physical spaces that include materials and toys.
2. Social interactions that occur in those spaces.
3. Routines and activities that are structured and sequenced in those spaces.



ADD A FOOTER

Setting Up a High Quality Environment



ADD A FOOTER

Quality Environment

- With a partner determine the needs of a quality early Childhood Classroom?



ADD A FOOTER

High Quality Classroom for All



1. Staff to Child Ratio
2. Class or group size
3. Curriculum
4. Education
5. Professional Development
6. Staff Stability
7. Safety
8. Assessment(s)
9. Adult-Child Interactions (Staff, students, and their families)
10. Individualized Goals based on Positive Social Interactions

ADD A FOOTER

Universal

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BILFZbRx1F8>



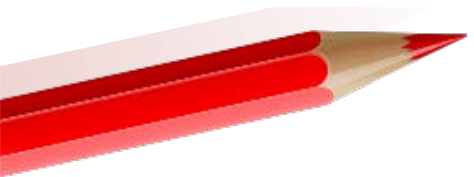
ADD A FOOTER

Universal



Discuss the needs in the environment in an Early Childhood Classroom. What do you do to meet those needs?

Then fill in the chart at your table!



ADD A FOOTER

Universal

	Universal	Classroom	Individual Child
Schedules and Routines			
Classroom Management			
Building Classroom Community			

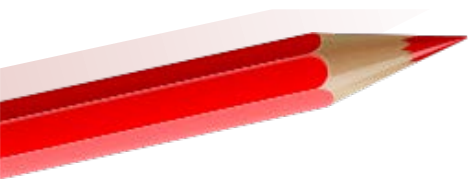


Classroom



Discuss what are the “unique” needs that some classrooms provide. What do you do to meet those needs?

Then fill in the chart at your table!



ADD A FOOTER



Classroom

	Universal	Classroom	Individual Child
Schedules and Routines			
Classroom Management			
Building Classroom Community			



Support to Natural and Inclusive Environments



Why should we provide supports in our early childhood environments?

1. Research supports inclusion of all young children in natural environments.
2. Current Education laws and regulations support Early Childhood Inclusion.
3. National Early Childhood professional organizations support inclusion for all children.

Ways to Support an Inclusive Environment



Teachers need to create a welcoming and accepting classroom environment by:

1. Developing a positive climate.
2. Providing classroom materials reflect *all* of the children as it provides a sense of belonging.
3. Arranging classes/cooperative learning groups to vary the population within each group.
4. Providing multiple ways to communicate.
5. Intentionally arranging the space, material, equipment, routines, schedule, and activities to support all students.

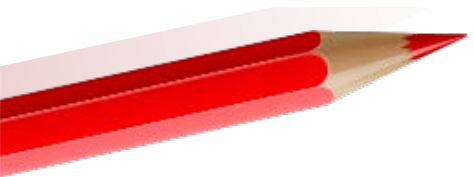
ADD A FOOTER

Individual Child



Discuss what are the “unique” needs that you need to provide for in an inclusive early childhood setting.

Then fill in the chart at your table!



ADD A FOOTER

Individual Child

	Universal	Classroom	Individual Child
Schedules and Routines			
Classroom Management			
Building Classroom Community			



Thank You!

APRIL HANSSON