

Adaptations of the SpecialQuest Multimedia Training Library for Service Providers of Preschoolers Who Have Disabilities



The SpecialQuest Multimedia Training Library was originally developed for individuals who work with infants and toddlers who have disabilities. These materials are easily adapted for those who serve preschool-age children who have disabilities. Users are encouraged to adapt or supplement the Library content to reflect unique considerations for including preschool-age children and their families in their communities.

General Adaptations

Users indicate that much of the Library content is relevant to preschool service providers and that minor modifications in language and content make the Library even more useful for these professionals. Suggestions for adaptations throughout the Library include:

- Changing the words “infants and toddlers” to “young children” (unless content is specific to the younger age-group, such as when discussing Individualized Family Service Plans)
- Incorporating information about IDEA, Part B, Section 619 to address the expectations for serving preschool-age children who have disabilities, such as:
 - Least Restrictive Environments
 - Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)
- Changing activity scenarios to include preschool-age children who have disabilities

Adaptations for Specific Sessions

Specific sessions were adapted to address preschool inclusion for the National Leadership SpecialQuest held in May, 2008.

Volume: Including Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities

- Session 5: Making It Happen for Families
 - Vignette #1* - age of child changed to 3 ½ years old

Volume: Including Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities

- Session 7: Getting Started
 - Inclusion Planning Checklists* - Revised to include the unique aspects of including preschool age children

Volume: Building Relationships with Families

- Session 8: The Individualized Family Service Plan Process
 - Renamed title: Individualized Planning with Families
 - Added an Individualized Family Service Plan/Individualized Education Program (IFSP/IEP) comparison chart*
 - IFSP Situation I: Yolanda – content revised to reflect the needs of a 4 year old child with disabilities; title changed to IEP Situation: Yolanda.

*Starred adaptations are available on the supplements page of the Web-based SpecialQuest Multimedia Training Library (www.specialquest.org).

Supplemental Materials

Users have frequently requested visual images (especially in the form of video footage) that reflect preschool-age children with disabilities and the variety of environments in which they receive services. SpecialQuest Birth-Five is in the process of creating video and other supplemental materials that focus specifically on providing high quality inclusive practices for preschool-age children who have disabilities.

In addition, SpecialQuest Birth-Five will link to other national resources that specifically address preschool inclusion, particularly those developed with funding from Office of Head Start and the Office for Special Education Programs. For example, rather than creating resources to address challenging behavior, SpecialQuest Birth-Five will link to the work of the Center for Social-Emotional Foundations of Early Learning (CSEFEL).

Sharing Adaptations

Individuals who make adaptations to the SpecialQuest Multimedia Training Library or who supplement the sessions with other materials are encouraged to share their adaptations, reference the supplemental resources, or share the changes they have made in implementing the sessions to accommodate for working with preschool-age children via the SpecialQuest Resource Bank or the SpecialQuest Discussion Forums at www.specialquest.org.