



Spring 2010 Map to Inclusive Child Care Newsletter

March 2010

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Hot Topics for Spring 2010

[Hot Topics for Spring 2010](#) introduces the new area on the Map website on [School Age & Beyond](#) resources. To more effectively address the needs children older than five years of age the Map Team has focused attention on identifying resources to support youth and young adults in their school, after school programs and community activities. The following are a couple of examples of the resources you can find in the new section.



Take a look at the Edutopia website and see the video "Enabling Dreams" to get a glimpse of how technology, from voice-activated software to customized laptops, is changing the way students with disabilities communicate, learn, and play. While you're there read the "Special Report on Autism" and the "Autism Peer Help" video that gives a real life example of how peers are natural teachers.



Welcome to the Spring 2010 Map to Inclusive Child Care Newsletter!

The California Map to Inclusive Child Care Project directs you to the latest publications, downloadable documents, and web resources supporting child care providers and all professionals who work with children with disabilities and their families. Map's website, funded through the Child Development Division of the California Department of Education as part of the WestEd Center for Child and Family Studies, is primarily geared toward providing resources to support child care providers in implementing inclusive practices for children with disabilities from birth to 21 years of age in their programs. However, the site provides comprehensive resources useful to all families and professionals involved with children with disabilities.

New National Resources on Inclusion



Resources to Support the Joint Position Statement on Early Childhood Inclusion

Two major early childhood organizations, DEC and NAEYC, created a joint definition and position statement on early childhood inclusion through a process facilitated by the National Professional Development Center on Inclusion (NPDCI). On the NPDCI's Early Childhood Inclusion page are links to the position statement, blogs by national leaders discussing it and a Power Point with ideas on how to use the position statement. Return here often to discover new resources and examples for using these resources to improve early childhood services. Find this under [National Professional Development Center on Inclusion](#) on the [Inclusive Practices](#) section of the Map website.

Preschool Inclusion Series Is Here!



SpecialQuest Multimedia Training Library:

Early Childhood Inclusion Training Resources That Work has made available to order or download newly developed videos and training sessions that support high quality inclusion of preschoolers (ages 3 to 5) in early care and education settings that are responsive to the priority and concerns of families. The target audiences are early childhood professional development providers, Institutes of Higher Education, family leaders, and policy makers. The Preschool Inclusion Series videos and training sessions explore several aspects of including preschool-age children who have disabilities in programs and settings with their typically developing peers such as: benefits and rationale for

California After School Resource Center, administered by the California Department of Education, provides downloadable materials and resources for inclusion in after school programs at the link to the "Building an Inclusive After School Program" page.

A Parent's Guide to the American's with Disabilities Act and Child Care



Developed by the Map to Inclusive Care Project, this downloadable brochure answers important questions about the ADA and private child care. What is the Americans with Disabilities Act? What exactly does the ADA require child care programs to do? How can I help a child care program meet my child's needs? For the answers to these questions and more you can find the brochure under [Reports and Useful Documents](#) on the Map Website. The brochure is available in both Spanish and English. You can order 25 or more of the brochures from our San Marcos office for the cost of shipping. Request the brochures by sending an email to map@wested.org

Updated Training Power Point: Map's Overview of California Early Start



This PowerPoint™ is designed to assist early educators in understanding the Early Start early intervention system when a child in their care, birth to age three years of age

inclusion; stories about the successful inclusion of a child what it took to ensure appropriate supports; practical and concrete strategies for making the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process collaborative and ensuring inclusion, with perspectives of family, service providers, and administrators. Find the link to [Special Quest](#) on the [Inclusive Practices](#) area of the Map website

Quality Improvement Efforts in California Address Inclusion!



California Early Learning Quality Improvement System (CAEL QIS) Advisory Committee (established by SB 1629-Steinberg) is in the process of developing a plan to improve outcomes for children and promote school readiness by improving the quality of early learning and care programs for children from birth to five years old. The *2009 Interim Report* describes the CAEL QIS Advisory Committee's progress in assessing California's existing early learning and care infrastructure and in designing a new system. Included in the 2009 Interim Report is a description of the work initiated prior to CAEL QIS by the California Department of Education in partnership with First 5 California to develop Early Childhood Educator Competencies to describe core knowledge, skills, and dispositions for early childhood educators working with children birth to age five. These core competencies, to be completed by June 2010, will be aligned with the *Infant/Toddler Learning and Development* and the *Preschool Learning Foundations*, and will be included as a cornerstone of professional development in California. Draft competency areas include twelve different performance areas with one of them being Special Needs and Inclusion.

To find out more about CAL QIS and read the full **2009 Interim Report** see the link to the CAL QIS Advisory Committee under [CDD of CDE](#) in the [Legal and Licensing](#) page of Map.



The **Water Cooler** is a collaborative effort by the Advancement Project, the California Community Foundation, First 5 California, and many other organizations representing interests in children from birth to age 18 to advance early care and learning for California's children birth to five. Members of this voluntary collaborative met in work groups several times in 2009 to develop recommendations to improve the early care and education system in California. The **Water Cooler Policy Report November 2009** specifically addressed children with special needs and inclusion in recommendations from two work groups. The work groups recommended that special needs inclusion be an integral part of a Quality Rating Improvement System in California and that there be increased access to inclusive early care and education through increased training for the workforce.

For more information about the Water Cooler Policy Report and their upcoming meetings find the [Water Cooler Policy/Trends](#) section.

Featured County Resource



BANANAS is a child care resource and referral

to age three years of age, has an identified disability or when they have concerns that a child in their care, birth to age three years of age, might have a disability. There are two parts of this resource: the **Brief Overview** and **Journeys Through Early Start** that includes stories of three children to illustrate the various ways that children can enter and receive services. The PowerPoints™ have been updated to reflect changes in state law as of July 2009. You can download the updates under the [Map Training PowerPoints™](#) area of the Map website.

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service (R&R) serving Northern Alameda County. This organization helped create R&R's in California and in the rest of the country. BANANAS provides counseling to parents as they tackle the difficult task of choosing child care; provides back-up support in different languages (written materials, workshops, support groups, advice line); participates in myriad cooperative activities in the community to work on building a better world for children and families. They help develop new child care resources and maintain existing ones so that parents have a good selection to choose from. BANANAS has more than a dozen Handouts to help parents choose infant or toddler child care, family child care, school age care or a preschool, as well as tips for finding care for children with special needs. These publications are helpful to families that live in any county.

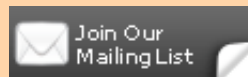
Find these downloadable publications on the Map website under [County Activities](#) > [Alameda County](#) > [Current Activities](#) > [Bananas](#).

Please contact us at map@wested.org if there's an organization in your county that has an inclusion resource or activity that should be shared.



The Annual Map Website Open House will be sometime in May. Via conference call you'll be taken on a virtual tour of the Map Website. Look for the announcement about the date and time in April.

If you would like to continue to receive Map to Inclusive Child Care Newsletters please join our mailing list using the link below.



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