**Classroom Center Design-**

**Part 4- Inclusion Center**

**Edu-221/H01- Children with Exceptionalities**

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What makes our center a welcoming, safe and handicap accessible environment is how we care and will make all accommodations that we possibly can to make sure every child is properly taken care of and comfortable. Here at Exceptional Children’s Education we hold a deep obligation to developing and sustaining a diverse center in the biggest sense, including differences in gender, race, ethnicity, culture, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, citizenship status, and physical ability. At this inclusion center we have modified the classroom to fit children who are typical as well as atypical. For example in our learning centers we have in classroom Smart Inclusion Toolkits such as “learning stations”; these can be employed from kindergarten to high school, to promote student- centered learning and to help teachers to differentiate their assessments on each child. These stations are adaptive to help our teachers determine learning profiles (strengths and needs) this will help on deciding the amount of time each child spends at each station. There is an interactive whiteboard center, tablets center, gaming systems, interactive tabletops, laptops and a paper-pencil manipulative center. These centers will help with our sensory students who have auditory or visual disabilities as well as our physical which includes students with orthopedic or mobility disabilities and for our students with communicative problems that have special learning disabilities such as speech or language impairments. In the centers the children will gain strength in fine motor, communication skills and also gain visual strength as well as other skills. Materials that we will have available that represent diversity will be all around the room; People figurines that represent different jobs and childlike figures that represent typical and atypical children as well as pictures indicating diversity. In our dramatic play area there will be different toys from other countries that represent diversity. Our Literacy center will have books about diversity such as the Kids’ Multicultural Cookbook by Deanna F. Cook, All Kinds of Children by Norma Simon, We Are One by Jennifer Black and Say Hello! by Rachel Isadora. These are also available for the children with exceptionalities who need braille, large print, or books on cd as well as other books for them to enjoy. The library is restocked every two weeks. If there is a book a child desires we keep it for them for a while longer. Our center design promotes inclusion at how the center is set up. Every child can use the centers when available. The centers are set up to accommodate each child’s different learning style. We will check each child’s profile each week to see if we need to make any changes to the programs. As you walk in our center you will see our cubbies on the right of you. These include wheel chair accessibility for our child that needs a wheel chair. As you follow the traffic pattern on the floor to the corner you will find our Science, Art and Math manipulatives center. In all the centers we have braille and large print signs indicating each center for our visually impaired children. Our shelves are at an appropriate height at 54” height, that’s 3ft. h. by 2ft. w. around the room you will find other desk and tables that are ADA approved. This center has all ADA furniture to fit every child’s accessible needs. Our Science and Art table is wheel chair accessible as well as our hand washing station. For math we have intractable tables and a math booth. There are different manipulatives to use for counting and sorting games. As you follow the traffic pattern you will pass by our multipurpose adjustable table to our white board station. Next is our Music center where we have our gaming and laptops station as well as instruments for the children to enjoy. The next stop is our dramatic play area. This is where we express ourselves freely. Our writing and Literacy station is where we have our paper and pencil station for developing literacy and writing as well as a braille writer for our child that learns using braille. Our back door to the play area is open to all children. At the entrance as well as the access to the play area there is a wheel chair ramp and rails. On the left of the play area access is our reading station/library. Here is where we use our tablets and do fun activities. We also use the display board in our reading station for storytelling.

Our staff here at (ECE) Exceptional Children’s Education Center hopes you will trust us with your children. It will be a great honor to have your children come learn and play here with us at Exceptional Children’s Education Center.