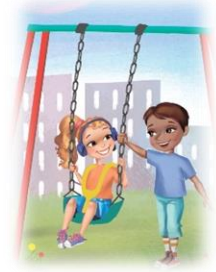


# Inclusive Play



*Include structured play options.*

Free play may be challenging for children with certain disabilities, so consider some structured play to get everyone involved! This can happen at recess, on play dates, at the park, or any social engagement! Let an adult model how to assist the child, and soon the child's peers will be able to help them engage too!

Examples: Red Light Green Light, Tag, puzzles, board games, building activities.

*Adapt a game that you already know.*

Assist the kids in modifying the rules for a game so everyone can be involved! This could be adapting sports like soccer or T-ball, or even games like Pin the Tail on the Donkey, Hide and Seek, or Tag!

Examples: To adapt soccer, you might place all the kids on the same team against an adult. While keeping it away from the adult, count how many times it's passed before you get it in the goal. That's the number of points you get when you score! If the adult gets the ball and scores, then they get all the passing points you've collected!

If wearing a blindfold or spinning doesn't work for a child for Pin the Tail on the Donkey, can a towel be held up, and the children reach around? If running doesn't work for tag, would walking tag work? For Hide and Seek, maybe hiding in pairs would help some children? Kids are creative, so ask them for help!!

*With younger children, MANY simple activities can be enjoyed together.*

Examples: Bubbles, listening or moving to music, making music with anything children can find, making motions to "The Wheels on the Bus" and "The Itsy-Bitsy Spider."

*For older kids, assist a child with special needs in finding a group of peers.*

With permission, help educate the peers about the individual with disabilities and possible ways to make a meaningful connection! Assist the group of peers in finding common interests.

Example: It can be as simple as sharing a popsicle together on a regular basis because they all like popsicles!

