

ADAPTATIONS

- Create activities to encourage collaborative play amongst children of all abilities. When modifying activities, ensure children with greatest needs can successfully complete the task.
- For younger children with limited movement, place the child and toys in a confined space such as an empty baby pool or use a box lid or lipped tray to keep materials from moving away from the child.
- For children who are highly sensitive to light, noise, or touching, provide spaces that offer less *stimulation* so they can feel calm and comfortable. If needed, work with families and specialists to offer appropriate physical activities for children.
- Provide supports or special equipment that allows children to participate in physical activities and play both indoors and outdoors (therapeutic walker, scooter board, supportive seating for swings or riding toys, bars for pulling up).
- Provide assorted larger size balls for holding, catching and throwing.
- Use bean bags instead of small balls when practicing throwing and catching. Add a large target such as a laundry basket for better aim.
- For children who have vision impairments, provide *manipulative* items with varied textures. Add color to water tables or paint to shaving cream.
- Provide puzzles with knobs or pegs for easier grasping.
- Adapt handles on items to make it easier to grasp and complete a task (large-handled paint brushes, larger writing *tools*, easier-to-grasp utensils, etc.).
- Provide *adaptive equipment* for children to access self-help skills (stools for reaching sink or toilet, easier-to-grasp handles of toothbrushes or utensils, etc.).
- When taking walks or field trips, plan ahead for any obstacles that may prevent any child from participating, such as stairs, grass to cross, or busy streets.

