

Resources within Reason

NAEYC Resources to Support Our Work

Camille Catlett February 2021

The National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) is an organization that works to promote high-quality early learning for all young children, birth through age 8, by connecting early childhood practice, policy, and research. The NAEYC website is a source of excellent free resources for families, educators, interventionists, and leaders. Read on to discover a few examples.

Looking for Good Resources on Advocacy?

One section of the NAEYC website is called Build Your Advocacy Skills. While the resources on state and federal advocacy are great, the section on Communication Tools is terrific. From writing a compelling letter to the editor to creating an effective blog post, this site is a super source of information and models.

<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/public-policy-advocacy/build-your-advocacy-skills-and-knowledge>

Committed to Equitable Services & Supports?

In 2019, NAEYC put forward a position statement on equity (Advancing Equity in Early Childhood Education). Then, they created a landing pad of resources to support the use of that position statement in daily practice. Visit the site below to see what the recommendations are for people who work with children and families every day or check out the information on how to support equitable approaches to child development.

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/position-statements/equity>

Using Anti-Bias Approaches

The NAEYC website has a recent article that can inform the work of individuals, programs, and organizations vis-à-vis anti-bias approaches. Moving Beyond Anti-Bias Activities: Supporting the Development of Anti-Bias Practices includes a framework for anti-bias teaching that may promote reflection by educators, interventionists, and leaders. Examples of how an educator might operationalize those practices are included.

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/mar2016/moving-beyond-anti-bias-activities>

Rocking and Rolling: Infant-Toddler Resources

If you work with infants and toddlers and their families, you might enjoy the Rocking and Rolling section of the NAEYC website. Every couple months there is a new evidence-based article (e.g., Empowering Infants' and Toddlers' Learning Through Scaffolding) with ideas for supporting learning and development.

<https://www.naeyc.org/search/Rocking%20and%20Rolling>

Discover Resources for Addressing Intersectionality

A major advance in our field has been the appreciation that each child has multiple characteristics and identities, only one of which may be a specific disability. Integrating **developmental** frameworks (e.g., what might we expect of a child at a specific age?), **contextual** frameworks (e.g., what is the family context? what is the community context?), and **individual** frameworks (e.g., does the child have a disability or a home language other than English?) is called intersectionality: integrating the diverse components of each child's identity to understand how to support that child and family most effectively. Our early childhood partners use the term developmentally appropriate practice or DAP to describe the importance of looking through and integrating multiple lenses for each child and family. For more information, go to the NAEYC position on DAP. As you're reading, consider how the DEC Recommended Practices are one of the sets of practices that informs how we engage and support children and families as individuals.

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/position-statements/dap/contents>

Supporting Young Black Children

There are a number of articles on the NAEYC website that provide evidence-based practices for supporting young black children in early childhood settings.

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/sept2020/discovering-brilliance-black-voices>

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/tyc/apr2019/strategies-culturally-responsive-classroom>

<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/tyc/feb2019/black-boys-matter>

Resources for Families

Looking for good information to share with families? Browse a collection of free NAEYC articles on topics that range from nature and outdoor learning to creative arts.

<https://www.naeyc.org/our-work/families/browse-by-topic>

Resources within Reason is a free, one-way listserv provided by the Division for Early Childhood (DEC). All resources are evidence-based, readily available and free.

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