



Personal Learning Profile

Lesson Plan IX

Objective: After an introduction to the concept of “disability” and a discussion on differences and how those require support in school, each student will complete the “About Me” worksheet by identifying his/her disability, formulate a personal definition that can be shared on their template, list accommodations that support his/her disability and then think about, given their disability, other things that he/she wants their teachers to know about them. This information will then be transferred to individual templates.

Transition Domains: Personal, Communication

Colorado Content Standards: (1) Students read and understand a variety of materials; (2) Students will write and speak for a variety of purposes and audiences; and, (5) Students read to locate, select and make use of relevant information from a variety media, references and technological resources.

Access Skills to the Colorado Content Standards: Communication and Basic Language Skills; Decision-Making and Problem Solving; Self-Determination; Physical; Inter/Intrapersonal; Organization;

Materials: Book by Norma Simon - "Why am I Different?", Copies of the worksheet “What is a Learning Disability?” for each student (found on LDOnline.com) (Again, the information found about learning disabilities may not apply to the students with whom you work- it will be important to find information that is at a level students can understand to have discussions that will help them to understand the meaning of their particular disability). Copies of individual student IEPs, particularly the sections that address eligibility, strengths, needs, accommodations. Sample of an IEP on an overhead transparency. Blank copies of the “About Me” worksheet for each student, highlighters.

Schedule:

3:15-3:20- Snacks

3:20-3:30- **INPUT:** Introduction to disabilities. Read “Why Am I Different?” by Norma Simon (1993).

3:30-3:40- **DISCUSSION:** Conduct a group discussion on the points raised in the book about differences and how some differences are categorized as 'disabilities.' Discuss the importance of understanding that while each of us share many traits and characteristics, all of us have things that are strengths as well as challenges or things that are difficult for us. Lead into a discussion about why it is important for students with disabilities to be able to understand their strengths and needs and be able to request the supports they need from teachers in order to do their best in school.

3:40-4:55- **INPUT:** The instructor will provide a global review of different disability categories and will answer student questions regarding each. The instructor then reviews and discuss, “What is a Learning Disability?” worksheet (found on LDOnline.com).

3:55 - 4:05 - **GUIDED PRACTICE:** The teacher will provide an example of an IEP on an overhead projector and point out the various components of the IEP as well as the types of words used to describe students' disability categories, strengths, needs, accommodations, etc. Students will use their own IEP to follow along with the instructor.

4:05-4:25: **INDEPENDENT PRACTICE:** Students will look at their IEP's. Under the “Current Functioning” section, each student will highlight information that helps him/her understand areas that are a strength, and areas that are difficult. Under the Accommodations and Needs section, the students will highlight information that they want teachers to know about them. Students should also add anything or make any changes during this time. Students can use the “About Me” worksheet to track and take notes on the information they find in the IEPs. Students can then use these notes to add to the respective slides on their personal template.

4:25– 4:30: **SUMMARY:** In a round-robin fashion, each student will share one thing that he/she learned about him/herself from reading his/her IEP.

HOMEWORK: Students will be asked to think about the term “legal rights” and bring in an example of at least one legal right they hold.

About Me Worksheet

Question to think about:	Notes/Response
My Disability is:	
Having this disability means that:	
Here are some accommodations that will help be more successful in my classrooms:	
Here are some additional things that I would like my teachers to know about me:	