

## Inclusive Schools Network News

November 2009

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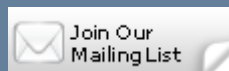
### Inclusive Schools Network

**"Supporting Inclusive Education Worldwide"**

The Inclusive Schools Network (ISN) is a web-based resource for families, schools, and communities interested in the topic of inclusive education. This network has grown out of Inclusive Schools Week™, an internationally-recognized, annual event sponsored by Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC). In 2009, ISN will be expanding its capacity to offer new products, conferences, online events, and social networking opportunities.



**Inclusive Schools Network News** is your source for updates and information about the Inclusive Schools Network, Inclusive Schools Week, and other resources and events related to building more welcoming and supportive schools and communities. Click below to subscribe:



## 9th Annual Inclusive Schools Week:

### "Celebration Ideas" Kit Now Available!

Each year, hundreds of schools and communities around the world use the "Celebration Ideas" kit to plan their events and activities for Inclusive Schools Week. The 2009 "Celebration Ideas" kit is now available on CD-ROM and can be purchased along with other Inclusive Schools Network products at: <https://fcsn.org/inclusiveschools/orderform.html>. This CD kit includes the 86-page "Celebration Ideas" document as well as a variety of celebration and awareness materials that can be used in planning your organization's Inclusive Schools Week celebration, and in promoting inclusive educational practices year-round!

If you would like to preview the 2009 "Celebration Ideas" document before making your purchase, [click here](#) to download the preview version (PDF). This preview document is free to download and highlights content from "Celebration Ideas", including:

- Information about the Inclusive Schools Network and Inclusive Schools Week,
- The full Table of Contents from the 2009 "Celebration Ideas",
- Classroom ideas for Inclusive Schools Week activities,
- Links to important resources and projects related to inclusive education, and
- Sample lesson plans!

Remember that the 2009 "Celebration Ideas" kit contains many additional tips, resources, planning documents and lesson plans, and that it can now be purchased on CD through the ISN products site. This CD is available to the general public for only \$15 (US).

For more information on the Week, please contact Sheri Brick at [sbrick@edc.org](mailto:sbrick@edc.org)

## Announcements:

### Science Education for Students with Disabilities

Science Education for Students with Disabilities (SESD) is a professional organization for educators and parents affiliated with the National Science Teacher Association. SESD exists to promote and advance the teaching of science and the development of curricula and instructional materials for students at all levels, with any manners of disability in the learning process.

SESD is currently looking for nominations for the Lawrence Scadden Teacher of the Year Award. This award, which is co-sponsored by Reaching the Pinnacle for Students with Disabilities at New Mexico State University, recognizes excellence in science teaching for students with disabilities. The award is open to all current K-12 teachers (general education, special education, or science teachers, public or

private) who have taught for at least 5 years and who have made an outstanding contribution to science students with disabilities. The recipient of the 2009-2010 award will be recognized at the 2010 National Science Teachers Association Convention in Philadelphia, PA and will receive a \$1,000 award to be applied to travel expenses for the conference. To submit an application for the award (self nominations are welcome) please go to: <http://www.sesd.info/scadden.htm>

SESD will also host a one-day pre-conference in conjunction with the 2010 annual convention of the National Science Teachers Association in Philadelphia, PA. The pre-conference will include speakers, interactive workshops, and science related materials for persons interested or connected to the field of science education for students with disabilities. The pre-conference will be held on March 17, 2010 at the Marriott Philadelphia Hotel. Science teachers, special education teachers, and persons interested in making science inclusive to all, should contact [pdavidson@usi.edu](mailto:pdavidson@usi.edu) for a registration form. Seats are limited, please apply early.

For more information about SESD and how to become a member please visit <http://www.sesd.info>

### ***New Including Samuel DVD!***

A updated version of the *Including Samuel* DVD will be available starting November 20th. The new DVD contains:

- 17 language subtitles
- Audio description and closed captioning in English
- Extended interviews with inclusion experts Norman Kunc, Keith Jones, John Hockenberry and others
- An inclusion discussion with the subjects of the film
- NHPTV special: The Impact of Including Samuel
- Film trailers and more!

Now only \$25 for the individual use DVD!

The educational package contains the new DVD (with all the features above) plus a license for educational, institutional and instructional use. The package also contains the new Educational Guide which includes:

- Extensive discussion questions
- Inclusion myths and realities
- A teacher's view on inclusion
- A synopsis of the major figures in the film
- A primer on language around disability
- Action ideas for you and your community and more!

For further information on *Including Samuel* and how to purchase the DVD, please go to: <http://www.inclusiveschools.org/node/115>

Tip of the Month:

### Virtual Manipulatives in the Inclusive Math Class

Using concrete and pictorial images in mathematics instruction is a research-proven strategy for many learners including students with disabilities. This strategy is commonly known as the Concrete-Representational-Abstract (CRA) Instructional Approach. This three sequence framework ultimately helps students make a connection between the concrete stage and abstract stage to achieve mastery of each mathematical concept. The National Library of Virtual Manipulatives (NLVM) is a project which uses this approach to instruction in teaching mathematics while addressing the problem of student disengagement. NLVM is a National Science Foundation (NSF) supported project that provides uniquely interactive, web-based virtual manipulatives and concept tutorials to involve students, at every grade level. Through the use of manipulatives, students are actively engaged in instruction and are able to visualize relationships and applications. Topics covered are: number and operations, algebra, geometry, measurement, and data analysis and probability. [Click here](#) to access the NLVM site.

Inclusive Practices Around the World:

### New UNICEF Website

UNICEF has recently launched a website on [Education and Emergencies](#) called "Back on Track". "Back on Track" is a innovative program designed to support and further international development work on education in emergencies and post-crisis transition countries. One major feature of the site is a podcast series called "Beyond School Books". This series, now in its second year, is a wide-ranging and provocative series of radio programmes on education in countries affected by conflict and natural disasters.

Follow Us on Twitter!

To follow us on Twitter, click on the following link:

<http://twitter.com/ISchoolsNetwork>

**Support Inclusive Schools Network and Inclusive Schools Week!**

**Here's how YOU can make a difference:**

Your purchase of products or tax-deductible contribution supports the work we are doing to support families, schools, and communities around the world to create awareness, build knowledge, and encourage systems change toward more inclusive educational opportunities for all children. We are a nonprofit, 501 (c) (3) organization, and we are extremely grateful for your support!

**ISN products are available for purchase online!** Use these items, including Celebration Kits, posters, pencils and much more, to promote your 2009 Inclusive Schools Week celebration and to raise awareness about inclusive educational practices throughout the year. This year, ISN is delighted to be collaborating with the Federation for Children with Special Needs, who will host the official online store for ISN products. To view these products, order online, or download a PDF order form, please visit our new **Products Page and Secure Online Order Form**:

<https://fcsn.org/inclusiveschools/orderform.html>

Click here to **download a contribution form** and make a donation today:

<http://www.inclusiveschools.org/files/Contribution%20Form.pdf>