

EDUCATION

Lesson Plan: Changes

Objective: Students will be able to describe the changes in education of people with disabilities over time.
Students will become aware that an educational system reflects the thinking of the time period.

Materials: Education for People with Disabilities Summary Sheet
Interview Notes sheet
Website pages

Vocabulary: inclusion
mainstreaming

New York State Learning Standards:

ELA Standard 1: Language for Information and Understanding
ELA Standard 4: Language for Social Interaction
SS Standard 1: History of the United States and New York

Procedure:

1. The teacher should view the Education section of the Education wing of the website to gain background information. *Note: the names of the schools are historically correct and the use of words such as idiot and feeble-minded etc. should be discussed with students within that historical perspective.*
2. Selections from the website may be viewed by students online or copies of those pages may be printed for student use.
3. As you look at this section of the website with your students, the following questions may be used to guide your discussion:
 - How has the education of people with disabilities changed over the years?
 - How have educational institutions changed?
 - How have teaching methods changed?
 - How has the content of what is taught changed?
 - How does the educational system for people with disabilities reflect the thinking of the times?
 - What is mainstreaming?
 - What is inclusion?
 - What work do you think still needs to be done?
4. Divide the class into three groups. One group will be assigned mainstreaming, one group inclusion and one group separate special schools. Each group will find, through research and interview, the advantages and disadvantages of their assigned method of education for students with disabilities. Each student will record their findings on the Education for People with Disabilities Summary Sheet.
5. Each group will share their information with the class. As each group shares, the other groups will take notes.
6. As a class, debate which for of education is the best way for students with disabilities to learn.

Closure/Ticket out the door: What work do you think still needs to be done regarding the education available to people with disabilities?

For historical accuracy and to illustrate changing views of society, words and language used in different eras are part of the website and lessons. No offense is intended toward people with disabilities, their families or advocates.



Name _____



Education for People with Disabilities

Mainstreaming

Advantages: _____

Disadvantages: _____

Inclusion

Advantages: _____

Disadvantages: _____

Special Schools

Advantages: _____

Disadvantages: _____

What do you think?

After you have listened to the other groups, write your opinion of which form of education is the best: mainstreaming, inclusion or special schools. Be sure to include the rationale for your opinion.

