

CREATING A CULTURE OF BELONGING

Teaching with CLASS Podcast Season 4 Episode 8

Guest: Pamela Thompson



+ Build Relationships with Families

Building strong relationships with families is essential. Take the time to get to know each child's family and their unique backgrounds. Show families that you value and respect their contributions to the classroom community. This involves understanding their languages, cultures, and traditions.

+ Use Google Translate for Communication

Tools like Google Translate can be invaluable when language barriers exist between educators and families. It helps bridge communication gaps and demonstrates your commitment to effective communication with all families.

+ Say "Yes" to Children's Exploration

Encourage children to explore and take risks in their learning experiences. Create an environment where children feel free to make choices and decisions about their activities. Use open-ended questions to stimulate their curiosity and critical thinking skills.

+ Expand Vocabulary and Language

Don't hesitate to use rich and varied vocabulary when communicating with toddlers. Introduce new words, ask questions, and engage in conversations to promote language development. Encourage children to express themselves and share their thoughts.

+ Celebrate Small Achievements

Celebrate children's accomplishments, no matter how small they may seem. Provide positive and enthusiastic feedback to boost their confidence. Pay attention to each child's unique response to praise, adapting your approach to what works best for them.

+ Reflect on Your Impact

Take moments to reflect on your interactions with children. Recognize the profound influence you have on their development and lifelong learning. Remember that children remember how you make them feel and the words you use, so make those interactions count.

These tips can serve as a valuable resource and guide for educators of toddlers who want to create an inclusive and supportive learning environment, fostering a sense of belonging and promoting child development in the classroom

To listen to this episode and read the transcript, visit <https://info.teachstone.com/blog/creating-a-culture-of-belonging>

