

Physical Challenges

Find the *Serving Children with Disabilities* training series associated with this resource at awana.org/clubclinic.

Key Principles:

Physical challenges can include being in a wheelchair, vision, speech or hearing impairment, seizures, food allergies, etc.

As leaders it's important to relax and view this challenge in perspective. Leaders need to be trained and have a plan.



Tips:

Gather the information you need and put together a plan. Every leader needs to know the plan. Leaders can feel confident when they are trained and prepared. Invite the parent or a trained professional to train leaders.

- Interview the parents (See *Awana for Me* for a list of suggested questions) and have them approve your written plan. The plan might include emergency procedures, warning signs, equipment use along with other resources. With parents permission distribute that plan to every leader.
- Imagine hopping into that child's body and test run the club in their shoes. What will be a challenge for this child? How can you adjust? What does Game Time look like to a child in a wheelchair? How can you accommodate this child?
- Be creative: During Handbook Time, place flash cards in a card holder or provide special pencil grips for children with dexterity challenges. During Large Group Time provide a child with speech or hearing impairments with streamers or a tambourine of ribbons to wave during singing.



Think of each member of the body of Christ as a pink and green puzzle piece.

Green = areas of strength

Pink = areas of weakness

Every member is made up of both pink and green!



Stop and Think:

Do you know or suspect that a child in your club has a physical disability?

What accommodations need to be made to help this child succeed?

Before implementing special accommodations for a child make sure you discuss them with your club director and the child's parents.



Resources

Awana for Me - A Guide to Working with Children with Special Needs
Find it: Awana Store

Inclusion Tool Kit
Find it: Online store at clcnetwork.org

G.L.U.E. Training Manual
Find it: Online store at clcnetwork.org

Questions? Contact us at leadershiptraining@awana.org