

ECHO Script – “Special Education For Young Children” (#409-#410)

Final and approved April 30, 2008 [1:22 pm]

-1-(Shots of parents interacting with younger children)

For parents, raising children is top priority. Each child is unique with special qualities and sometimes, young children need extra help with their development. That’s why it’s important that parents work with teachers, doctors and others early on so children have a good start to learn and grow.

[48]

-2- (Shots of young children in school with books.. teachers.. playing.. crawling)

Some children may have problems that may affect a child’s ability to learn in school. In Minnesota schools, there is help from Special Education programs and these services that can began at birth and well before school starts. It’s important to take your child to a clinic to check eyesight, hearing, growth and development. Identifying health and developmental problems early can help parents make sure their babies and young children receive early childhood special education services as soon as possible.

[80]

-3- (Video of a child being examined by a doctor.. or school nurse)

Parents, relatives or friends are usually the first to notice when a child has trouble moving, crawling, walking or talking or may have trouble getting along with others. All parents want the best for their babies and children, but might be afraid to talk to others about the health and development problems. Special education programs also help parents help their children.

[61]

-4-(Video of special education classroom work and measurement tests)

Special education programs in your community help parents find ways to improve the development and well being of children. There are programs to support a child’s learning, social and behavioral growth. These services are free for all eligible children and their families.

[42]

-5-(Continue video of young kids in a classroom setting or being looked over by a doctor)

Special education teachers can work with you to check your child's development. They may test your child's speech, learning skills and play. Social and behavioral skills are also measured and if needed, services are available so children learn how to play well with others and make friends. Teachers and others can work with you and your baby or toddler in your home, at child care or at school. Preschool children over three years old will usually get these services in a child care centers, Head Start or other preschool programs.

[90]

-6- (Video of children learning, maybe playing with toys)

Parents concerned about their child's ability to see, hear, walk, talk or get along well with others should call their school district to make an appointment for their children to be checked well before school starts. Special education programs, services and resources that help children do well in school can start as soon as soon as there are concerns, even for babies. The earlier children get help, the better they can be prepared for the life that's ahead of them.

[80]

-7- (Video of teacher with young children)

Teachers and health care workers will take time to get to know your child so they can understand the health, learning and behavioral needs of your child. Some children won't qualify for special education but those that do can find the help they need with support from schools. These services are free and can take place at school, child care or at home.

[63]

-8- (Shots of parents with their children)

Making sure babies and children eat well, learn well and grow up to be the best they is challenging work. But parents don't have to raise children alone. Special education services are available to help parents raise children with special needs. By getting the help your child needs now, they will be more likely to succeed in school giving them a head start in life.

[65]

Total [529] / Approved by Translation Project Manager 4-30-08.