

Let's Prioritize Belonging

Erin Barry and Jesse Gluckman

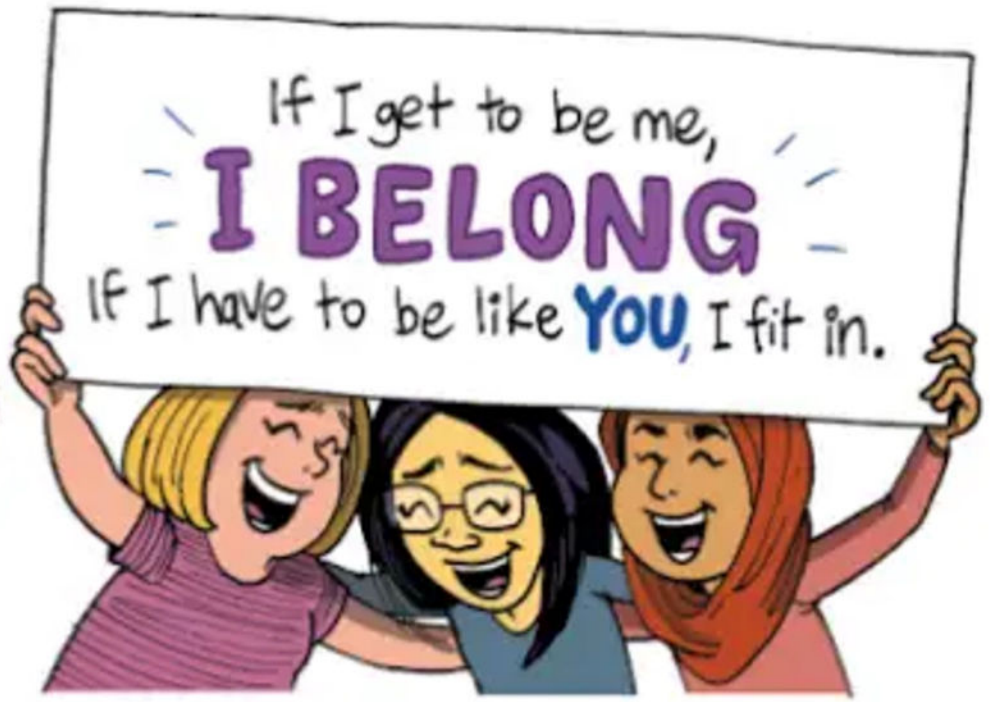
What's the purpose of inclusion?

Inclusion is about honoring diversity, not ignoring it. It is about responding to the needs of individual children within the context of their families, their classrooms and their schools.



BELONGING is
being accepted
for you ☺

FITTING IN is
being accepted
for being like
everyone else



If I get to be me,
I BELONG
If I have to be like **YOU**, I fit in.



What does it mean to belong?

“It is a more general inference, drawn from cues, events, experiences, and relationships about the quality of fit or potential fit between oneself and setting. It is experienced as a feeling of being accepted, included, respected in, and contributing to a setting, or anticipating the likelihood of developing this feeling.”

Gregory Walton and Shannon T. Brady

It's important to remember that belonging is not about the number of friends one has in a space.

Explore Belonging

What can belonging look like at home?



Explore Belonging

What can belonging look in school?

- Involve your child in the IEP process and engage in conversation around belonging.
- Authentic interactions within spaces
- Universal supports for ALL learners
- Classrooms that acknowledge variability and celebrate it
- IEP Team talks about purpose and everyone knows and works towards those goals
- Demonstrating to all students that they are worth the effort, time and that they do belong
- Giving students vocabulary
- Open spaces for conversation and inviting it in intentional way
- Well practices inclusion in intrinsic to belonging



Explore Belonging

What can belonging look like in the community?

- Inclusive friendly [cruises](#) and [airline programs](#)





Resources

Shelley Moore Video on the importance of place-<https://youtu.be/VZeWXeadgmw>

Community Works Institute article- <https://magazine.communityworksinstitute.org/the-purpose-of-inclusion-setting-or-vision/#:~:text=Inclusion%20is%20about%20honoring%20diversity,their%20classrooms%20and%20their%20schools>