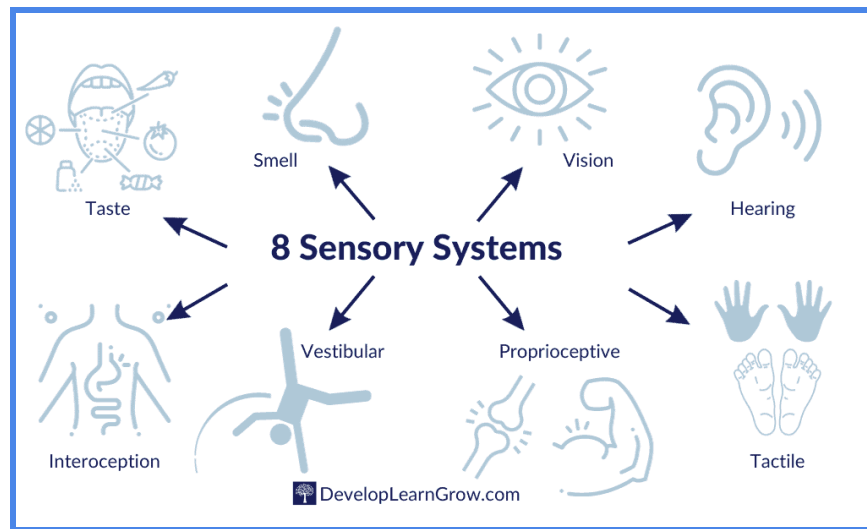


Creating Inclusive Experiences

Quick facts about disability:

- ★ Disability is apart of the human condition
- ★ 20% of the population have some type of disability: physical, intellectual, developmental
- ★ Something we will all experience if we live long enough
- ★ Temporary or permanent
- ★ Not a bad word

We all have 8 sensory systems and they all work differently.



In-Person Sensory Environments

- Provide options
- Be flexible
- Give people information ahead of time

Inclusive language strategies around sensory integration



“I Wonder” Statements

- “I wonder” statements are open-ended prompts used to encourage exploration of and reflection on an individual’s feelings, experiences, or needs without making assumption

- I wonder what your body is telling you right now” or “I wonder if ____ or ____ would help your body right now.”
- Using “I wonder” statements also avoids asking a direct question, which can be hard or triggering

Declarative Language

DECLARATIVE LANGUAGE NUTS & BOLTS CHEAT SHEET

These are *options*. Pick & choose what is developmentally right for your learner!

A SIMPLE COMMENT THAT OBSERVES The dog looks hungry. Those flowers are really colorful!	1ST PERSON PRONOUNS THAT MODEL AN IDEA OR CREATE PARTNERSHIP <i>I, me, my, mine</i> <i>We, let's, us, ours</i> Let's go get our bags. We had fun yesterday! The teacher is waiting for us. I wonder if your friend likes pretzels.
WORDS THAT EMPHASIZE UNCERTAINTY, POSSIBILITY & ALTERNATIVES <i>maybe, might perhaps, possibly sometimes, not sure, almost</i> Maybe your friend wants to play too. We might go outside later. I'm not sure.	COGNITIVE VERBS <i>think, hope, remember, forget, decide, wish, wonder, know, don't know, imagine</i>
OBSERVATIONAL WORDS OR WORDS RELATED TO OUR SENSES <i>notice, see, hear, smell, feel</i> I notice everyone is ready for our story. I heard your friend ask you something. I can tell your friend feels happy!	MINDFUL PACING • It's really important to give everyone time to think. • Pause so your learner can respond in their own unique way. • Don't be afraid of silence!

declarativelanguage.com

PRIDE skills

P	PRAISE
R	REFLECT
I	IMITATE
D	DESCRIBE
E	ENJOY