

## “WTK for All Families”

### *Planning Considerations for Families Whose Children Have Special Needs*

A. Pre-WTK Family Outreach Meeting:

- Introduce family to the idea of participating in the WTK Family Orientation session.
- What will help the family feel comfortable and support their participation?
- How can we support your child to best focus their attention and activity?
- What challenges might you foresee and how can we mitigate them?



B. Assessment of the WTK Family Orientation session environment in relation to the family and their child:

- Accessibility? (both to the building, the rooms and to the activities)
- Sensory stimuli? (sound, light, social activity, movement, change)
- Family circumstances in large groups/ spaces and in small groups/spaces?
- Nature of the WTK planned activities?



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### C. Accommodation Considerations:

- Family participation best suited in large groups, small groups or individually?
- Active support and participation of the early years support services.
- Number of activities engaged? (one, two or all centres)
- Provision of a quiet space should the child or parent need to detach from the activities for a period of time.



### D. Specific Examples of Accommodation:

- Enlarge print to address visual challenges.
- Employ manual props to offer visual drama to accompany a story.
- Use table sizes that allow appropriate space to accommodate any mobility devices.
- Plan WTK activities that lend themselves to a range of abilities. (i.e. parachute)
- Actively engage community partners in participating with WTK centre activity.

