Week 2 - Discussion 1

11 unread reply.11 reply.

Your initial discussion thread is due on Day 3 (Thursday) and you have until Day 7 (Monday) to respond to your classmates. Your grade will reflect both the quality of your initial post and the depth of your responses. Refer to the Discussion Forum Grading Rubric under the Settings icon above for guidance on how your discussion will be evaluated.

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| **Positive Environments** |

In this discussion, you will be discussing how to structure positive and caring learning environments. This discussion also supports your achievement of Course Learning Outcome 1 and the MASE Program Learning Outcome 4.

**Initial Post:** As noted by Cohen and Spenciner (2009) in your text, “supporting students with severe, persistent behavior problems requires a high level of self-awareness on the part of teachers” (p. 298). For your narrative in this discussion, do the following:

* First, identify the disability you are focusing on for this course (selected in Week One’s Post Your Introduction discussion).
* Next, provide a detailed overview of the possible ways that you would collect information to understand the nature and severity of the behavior.
* Explain some of the possible behaviors that could be disruptive to the classroom or larger school community. Be specific.
* Finally, discuss techniques you could use to implement appropriate social and behavior skills in the classroom environment for a student with this disability (assuming he or she has significant challenges in these areas). What accommodations could you make? Think about recess/lunch time/social time in regard to relationship and friendship building for students within your identified disability focus.

**Guided Response:** Respond individually to at least two peers. Assume the role of a peer faculty member or professional colleague. Do the accommodations and techniques sound reasonable for the disability identified? Do they support friendship and relationship building?

Though two replies is the basic expectation, for deeper engagement and learning, you are encouraged to provide responses to any comments or questions others have given to you, including the instructor. Responding to the replies given to you will further the conversation and provide additional opportunities for you to demonstrate your content expertise, critical thinking, and real-world experiences with this topic.