

STUDENT BACKGROUNDS

13.1. Vocabulary

Ex. 1. Match the words to their definitions.

1. special needs	a. a disease or period of sickness affecting the body or mind.
2. allergy	b. a person who speaks a language other than their first language.
3. illness	c. Individualized Education Program; a plan that outlines the special education and related services specifically designed to meet the unique educational needs of a student with a disability.
4. one child	d. a medical condition in which someone becomes sick or develops skin or breathing problems because they have eaten certain foods, touched particular substances, or been near certain things.
5. non-native speaker	e. a school for children between the ages of about two and five.
6. iep	f. specific requirements that individuals with disabilities may need in order to participate fully in daily activities.
7. preschool	g. a person who has a child or children but no husband, wife, or partner living with them.
8. attend	h. having only one child in a family.
9. single parent	i. a brother or sister.
10. sibling	j. to go to an event, place, or school regularly.

Ex. 2. Translate the sentences into Russian. Write the translations in your notebook.

1. She has a severe allergy to peanuts, so we have to be careful in the classroom.
2. I couldn't attend the parent-teacher conference, but I'll schedule one for next week.
3. Making adjustments to the curriculum is part of the IEP process, which ensures that each student's needs are met.

4. The student missed two weeks of school due to illness and now they're trying to catch up on their assignments.
5. As a non-native speaker, the student often struggles with understanding idioms and cultural references.
6. The teacher noticed that one child was falling behind in math and decided to provide extra help during recess.
7. The preschool teacher works closely with the parents to make sure the child is progressing academically and socially.
8. The sibling of a student in another class asked me if they could volunteer in the classroom.
9. As a single parent, she does her best to support her child's education while also working full-time.
10. The student with special needs receives accommodations in the classroom such as extra time on tests.

13.2. Word Formation

Ex. 1. Change the form of the word where necessary.

1. I am _____(allergy) to peanuts, so I avoid eating them.
2. My sister has a severe _____(allergy) to cats, so she can't be around them.
3. English is my _____(native) language, but I'm learning Spanish as well.
4. Many _____(native) English speakers find it challenging to pronounce certain sounds.
5. She is a fluent _____(speak) of French and German.
6. Can you _____(speak) louder? I can't hear you very well.
7. I have many fond memories from my _____(child) spent at the beach.
8. The _____(child) was excited to open his birthday presents.
9. After recovering from her _____(ill), she returned to work.
10. He felt _____(ill) after eating too much junk food.

13.3. Reading

Ex. 1. Read the text.

Student Backgrounds

As a preschool teacher, you'll have children from many different backgrounds. Here are some of the things you may discover about your students and their families.

Allergies

Many young children have food allergies. If one of your students has an allergy, learn how to recognize the symptoms of a reaction and what to do in an emergency.

Attendance

Regular attendance is important for young children. If one of your students misses a lot of school, talk to his or her parents about it. There may be something you can do to help.

Birth order

A child's birth order (firstborn, middle, last, only) can affect his or her behavior and personality. For example, firstborns often like to take charge, while only children are often independent.

IEPs

Some children have individual education plans (IEPs). An IEP is a plan that describes the special needs of a student with learning differences and explains how those needs will be met.

Illness

Young children often get sick. If one of your students is absent because of an illness, ask his or her parents if they need any homework or other assignments.

Language

Some children are non-native speakers of English. They may need extra help with vocabulary or understanding instructions. Also, be aware that certain behaviors mean different things in different cultures.

Siblings

If a child has brothers or sisters who also attend your school, try to avoid comparing them. Each child is unique and should be treated as an individual.

Single parents

Many children live with just one parent. If a child's mother or father is raising him or her alone, offer your support. You could also suggest resources for single parents in your community.

Special needs

Some children have special needs. These might include physical disabilities, speech or language delays, or autism. Talk to the child's parents and any specialists involved to learn how best to meet these needs.

By getting to know your students and their families, you can create a more inclusive classroom. And remember, every child is special in his or her own way!

Ex. 2. Answer the questions.

1. How can food allergies affect young children in a preschool setting?
2. Why is regular attendance important for young children?
3. How does birth order influence a child's behavior and personality?
4. What are individual education plans (IEPs) and why do some children have them?
5. How can teachers support students who are absent due to illness?
6. What challenges might non-native English speakers face in the classroom?
7. How can teachers create an inclusive environment for children with special needs?

13.4. Communication *Ex. 1. Make sentences using the following words:*

1. enjoys/playing/classmates
2. listens/carefully/teacher
3. eager/learn/things
4. shares/toys/friends
5. follows/rules/instructions
6. participates/actively/activities
7. fun/singing/dancing
8. kindness/empathy/peers
9. expresses/creatively/art
10. excited/come/school

