

A review of interventions for children and youth with severe disabilities in inclusive education

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Why did we do this study?

This study was done because children with severe disabilities often miss out on school due to various challenges. We wanted to find out how to include them in classrooms best so they can learn and be part of the school community. This research helps teachers know what support children with severe disabilities need.

How did we do this study?

Four databases were searched on the internet to find studies on how children with severe disabilities were included in regular schools. We focused on studies in English that were done from 2001 to 2020. First, we found 1,413 articles. Then, two reviewers helped to select the most relevant studies. The studies that were relevant were reviewed and compared using text and tables.



What did we find?

In total, we found 13 studies published between 2001 and 2019. Most studies were from the United States of America (USA) and one from Cyprus. We found that many studies used teamwork and friends to help children with severe disabilities succeed. They also participated in school much better when they received support from their teachers. The studies showed that children with severe disabilities can improve their social and academic skills when they are included in the classroom.



What does this mean?

We need more research on this topic outside of the USA. Most children with severe disabilities still receive help in special classes. They seem to join regular classes in some subjects like art or music. This means that researchers must do more work to find the best ways to help children with severe disabilities learn in regular schools.

What can we do to help?

Researchers must continue to study how all children, those with and those without severe disabilities, can be friends and learn together at school. More research on this topic should be done in other countries. This will help us understand how children with severe disabilities are included in school in different parts of the world.

