Resources for Professional Development Focus/Target Topics

General Internet Resources
The following resources have information on a variety of topics and will be useful from month to month as you go through the Professional Development topics.

Technical Assistance and Training System (TATS)
TATS is a statewide project which supports programs serving prekindergarten children with disabilities by providing technical assistance and training. This support promotes high quality programs leading to positive outcomes for children and their families. www.tats.ucf.edu

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
NAEYC is a national organization of early childhood educators and others dedicated to improving the quality of programs for children from birth through third grade, including those with disabilities. http://www.NAEYC.org

FLDOE Office of Early Learning
The Department of Education/Office of Early Learning (DOE/OEL) focuses on access to high-quality early education, accountability and transparency, and assisting and maintaining the vital network of early learning providers who nurture the developing mind. Units include Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten and School Readiness programs. http://www.floridaearlylearning.com/

Grow to 5: An Overview of Your Growing Child
This publication is available through FL DOE Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services. It provides developmental checklists and ideas for providing nurturing environments to help children develop characteristics that will help them succeed in school. http://www.fldoe.org/core/fileparse.php/7690/urlt/0070115-grow5wel.pdf

National Institute for Early Education Research
Supports early childhood preschool education initiatives for 3- and 4-year old children by providing objective, nonpartisan information based on research. The Institute offers independent research-based advice and technical assistance to four primary groups: policy makers, journalists, researchers, and educators. http://nieer.org/

What Works Clearinghouse (WWC)
Provides summaries of research-based articles including instructional strategies, curriculum, behavior, and intervention reports. https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/FFW/Results?filters=,Pre-K
Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center
Head Start site for technical assistance, policy clarifications and best practices.
http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/ecdh/eecd/Learning%20Environments

Head Start Center for Inclusion
Our overarching goal is to increase the competence, confidence, and effectiveness of personnel in Head Start programs to include children with disabilities. Look here for training materials, tools for teachers and coordinators, as well as other resources.
http://depts.washington.edu/hscenter/

The Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning
A national center focused improving the social and emotional outcomes of young children. Evidence-based, user-friendly information is available to help early childhood educators meet the needs of children with challenging behaviors and mental health challenges. Products include "What Works Briefs" (summaries of effective practices), and five training modules on Promoting Social and Emotional Competence.
http://www.vanderbilt.edu/csefel/

National Early Childhood Technical Assistance Center (NECTAC)
A program of the FPG Child Development Institute of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. NECTAC supports the national implementation of the early childhood provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) by strengthening systems at all levels to ensure that children (birth through five) with disabilities and their families receive and benefit from high quality, culturally appropriate and family centered supports and services. http://www.nectac.org

SERVE
The SERVE Center is one of ten Laboratories providing research-based information and services nationwide. These Laboratories form a nationwide education knowledge network, building a bank of information and resources shared and disseminated nationally and regionally to improve student achievement. Resources and information are available on a variety of topics for Pre-K programs, including transition, early literacy, and evaluation and assessment.
http://www.serve.org/Early-Childhood-Education.aspx
Internet Resources Related to Social-Emotional Skills and Behavior

**Autism Teaching Tools**
A resource to help parents and professionals find specific tools and teaching tips for working with individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder. Provides practical guidance on materials and addresses areas of curriculum management, educational manuals and guides and related links.
http://www.autismteachingtools.com/

**Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention for Young Children (TACSEI)**
Formerly the Center for Evidence-Based Practice. TACSEI continues to promote evidence-based practices for improving the social-emotional outcomes for young children with, or at risk for, delays or disabilities. The Pyramid Model framework is used as the conceptual model to promote social-emotional competence and address challenging behavior. One resource is Teaching Tools for Young Children with Challenging Behaviors developed to assist teachers to support young children who are having challenging behaviors.
http://www.challengingbehavior.org

**Florida Positive Behavior Support**
Purpose: Increasing the capacity of Florida's school districts to address problem behaviors using Positive Behavior Support.
http://flpbs.fmhi.usf.edu/
Internet Resources Related to Literacy

Center for Early Learning Literacy
The Center for Early Learning Literacy reviews and synthesize evidence on effective literacy learning practices; identifies and develops evidence-based literacy practices from research; implements and evaluates use of practices with young children with developmental delays or diagnosed disabilities; and provides general and specialized technical assistance promoting the adoption and use of evidence-based practices.
http://www.earlyliteracylearning.org/index.php

Get Ready to Read! (GRTR)
A national initiative to build literacy skills of pre-school age children. GRTR provides an easy to administer, research based screening tool to educators, child care providers and parents. GRTR’s vision is that all pre-school children will have the skills they need to learn to read when they enter school.
http://www.getreadytoread.org/

National Center for Family Literacy
The purpose of NCFL is to put the family at the forefront of educational reform. NCFL works with families, communities, and dedicated partners to bring change to parents and their children. By bringing literacy to families, the aim is to break down barriers to success, like poverty, unemployment, poor health, and inadequate housing.
http://www.famlit.org/

Talk and Books
From Washington Learning Systems. "Talk and Books" video is available in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Korean. This video is part of the "Language is the Key" program and was developed to help teach adults how to use language facilitation strategies when looking at picture books with young children. The video can be viewed in its entirety online at
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GgkZ8gSyfnU

FLDOE Bright Beginnings
A strong foundation in early reading and mathematics is essential to each child's future success. To achieve this, Florida's standards, instruction, and assessments in Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK) through third grade must be structured so that learning builds progressively from grade-to-grade.
http://www.brightbeginningsfl.com/
Internet Resources Related to Inclusion

Circle of Inclusion
For early childhood service providers and families of young children. Contains various resources related to inclusion for young children (to age 8). Spanish, Korean and Japanese in addition to English. Includes articles, adaptations and modification ideas, children’s literature relating to disabilities, ideas for inclusive classrooms and links. http://www.circleofinclusion.org/

The Let’s Play! Projects
From the University of Buffalo Center for Assistive Technology. Provides families and others with ideas and strategies to promote play through the use of assistive technology. http://letsplay.buffalo.edu/

Early Childhood Research Institute on Inclusion
National research project funded by the Office of Special Education Programs, U.S. Department of Education to study the inclusion of preschool children with disabilities in typical preschool, child care and community settings. http://www.fpg.unc.edu/~ecrii

Florida Inclusion Network (FIN)
Provides learning opportunities, consultation, information and support to educators, families, and community members to promote and support inclusive educational opportunities throughout the state of Florida. http://www.floridainclusionnetwork.com/

Inclusive Education
Designed for general and special education teachers, parents, and school staff around supporting inclusive education. Resources for making accommodations are included as well as links to other web sites and resource lists for learning more about inclusive education. http://www.uni.edu/inclusion/index.htm
Internet Resources Related to Assessment

The Assessment Database
From the National Institute for Early Education Research. A reference resource for information about assessments and data gathering in early childhood education.
http://nieer.org/assessment/

Battelle Developmental Inventory, Second Edition (BDI-2)
Assessment instrument used in Florida to collect data on children in both the Early Steps Program Part C, and the prekindergarten Exceptional Student Education (ESE) Section 619 programs. The data is to report on the progress of infants, toddlers, and preschool children with disabilities in the State Performance Plan (SPP).
www.tats.ucf.edu

Tracking, Referral and Assessment Center for Excellence (TRACE)
Identification and promotion of the use of evidence-based practices and models for improving child find, referral, early identification, and eligibility determination for infants, toddlers, and young children with developmental delays or disabilities.
http://www.puckett.org/tracecenter.php

Internet Resources Related to Accommodations and Differentiated Instruction

Recognition and Response
RecognitionandResponse.org supports a new systemic approach that can help early educators and parents ensure early school success for all children, including those at risk for learning difficulties. This approach is consistent with best practice in early childhood education and with evidence that supports seamless and effective transition from Pre-K to the early school grades.
http://ectacenter.org/search/presentations/responseinter.asp
Internet Resources Related to Transition

The Florida Center for Parent Involvement (FCPI)
Contains a "Transition to Kindergarten" page with links to ideas about transitions to kindergarten for providers, parents and children, including how to prepare a year ahead, what to expect during the transition, first day steps and tips, and skills to help ease the transition. Several of the links are in Spanish.
http://cfs.cbc.usf.edu/resource-centers/fcpi/

Florida's Transition Project for Infants, Young Children and Their Families
Assists local communities in establishing trained teams and interagency agreements to develop a seamless system of transition among agencies providing services to young children with disabilities, birth to six years of age, and their families. Florida's Transition Project is affiliated with the Technical Assistance and Training System (TATS).
http://www.floridatransitionproject.ucf.edu/

National Early Childhood Transition Center
Information and resources on successful transitions between infant/toddler programs, preschool programs, and public school programs for young children with disabilities and their families. Includes links, transition alert topics and a database.
http://www.hdi.uky.edu/NECTC/

Terrific Transitions, Supporting Children's Transition to Kindergarten
A collaborative effort of the SERVE Regional Educational Laboratory and the National Head Start Association. Provides a wide variety of transition information and resources for families, professionals, and community partnerships to use as they address children’s transitions into kindergarten. Provides activities and links to research and a trainer’s guide to facilitate training on the transition to kindergarten.
http://center.serve.org/tt/

Internet Resources Related to Classroom Spaces

Classroom Set-up, Visuals, and Support. Photos and visuals for download with emphasis on safety and daily routines from Head Start Inclusion site http://headstartinclusion.org/classroom-visuals

How to Set Up a Preschool Classroom (with photos). The article describes setting up areas of the classroom, including group meeting area and centers. http://www.wikihow.com/Set-Up-a-Preschool-Classroom

Setting the Stage for Engaged Learners. The emphasis of the article is on providing an environment that encourages children to think, explore, and manipulate a variety of materials. National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).
**Setting up a Preschool Classroom.** The article includes lists of suggested materials for each center. [http://allaboutpreschool.com/setting-up-a-preschool-classroom/](http://allaboutpreschool.com/setting-up-a-preschool-classroom/)

**Setting up Your Preschool Learning Centers.** Detailed ideas for each classroom center are given. Emphasis is on providing opportunities for hands-on experiences and play. The article also includes links to hints for organizing and labeling. [https://www.kaplanco.com/ii/preschool-learning-centers](https://www.kaplanco.com/ii/preschool-learning-centers)

**The Power of Purposeful Preschool Environments - Creating an Environment to Increase Learning.** Four elements are described: safety, culture, zoning, set-up. [http://www.communityplaythings.com/resources/articles/2014/the-power-of-purposeful-environments](http://www.communityplaythings.com/resources/articles/2014/the-power-of-purposeful-environments)

**Links to Videos about Setting up Preschool Classrooms**

**Recommended: A Video Tour of a Preschool Classroom**
[https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=setting+up+preschool+classroom&qpvt=setting+up+preschool+classroom&FORM=VDRE](https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=setting+up+preschool+classroom&qpvt=setting+up+preschool+classroom&FORM=VDRE)

**Recommended: Key Factors in Setting up a Pre-K Classroom**
[https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=setting+up+preschool+classroom&qpvt=setting+up+preschool+classroom&FORM=VDRE](https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=setting+up+preschool+classroom&qpvt=setting+up+preschool+classroom&FORM=VDRE)

CARA’s KIT (Creating Adaptations for Routines and Activities) from Division for Early Childhood (DEC) of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC). This flip book provides information about how to make adaptations to the environment for children who have difficulty or need assistance with accessing and using materials in the classroom. [https://bookstore.dec-sped.org/product-p/001.htm](https://bookstore.dec-sped.org/product-p/001.htm)