

SOCIAL SKILLS - Fiesta Especial® is an official event for children and adults with disabilities to participate in the celebrations of Fiesta® San Antonio! On Friday, April 11th, over 1,500 school children in special education programs from San Antonio and surrounding communities will attend this event.

- **Peer Interaction** - Children meet others from a variety of schools and geographical areas.
- **Play Skills** – Students choose from several different free, unlimited rides.
- **Taking Turns** – Children will take turns riding the rides and waiting in line.
- **Responding To and Initiating Greetings** – Children can engage with each volunteer or ride operator.
- **Know What Supports Are There** – There will be a first aid station, Security Officer who is always stationed at the guest registration, and the main stage at the event where students can come if they are separated from their group.
- **Accept Difference in Things and Others** - Fiesta Especial® is an event for individuals with all types of disabilities. Not all children will play the games or be able to get on and off the rides in the same way.

PROBLEM-SOLVING SKILLS - All of the games and rides for Fiesta Especial® are posted on our website prior to the event.

- **Making an Outline/List** – Students can engage in doing this to determine what activities and rides they would like to participate in throughout the day.
- **Know What is Needed to Complete an Activity** - The Fiesta Especial® Shoebox Parade is a great activity where students determine the necessary materials they will need to complete their float project.
- **Money Management** – Through the purchase of game tickets or food at the event.
- **Save for Purchases** – All prices are posted prior to the event, so students can predetermine the amount they need to complete all their desired activities.
- **Staying Engaged in a Task and/or Activity** – After the student has decided to participate on a ride, it can be difficult to wait in a longer line when you see the ride one slot over has a much shorter line.
- **Use Visual Supports to Work Independently** - Fiesta Especial® will have several pictorial menus available for individual download for the students on the school resource page of our website prior to the event.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS - At Fiesta Especial®, there are two designated areas for sitting which are located throughout the venue.

- **Asking for a Break** – Students can practice this between activities or when they need to sit a spell.
- **Learn to Wait** – Students have the opportunity for this when volunteers give instruction for some activities and allow time for questions and answers.
- **Ask “Wh” Questions** – With a wide range of Fiesta® Royalty attending the event, students are welcome to learn more about who they are and what they represent.

SELF-HELP/SELF-CARE SKILLS –

- **Ability to Read Signs, Labels and Warnings and Know What They Mean** – There are many signs at Fiesta Especial® giving students many opportunities to use their analyzing and reading skills.
- **Right Outfit for the Right Situation** – Fiesta Especial® is an outdoor event and a very festive and fun occasion. Students can engage in discussions about selecting their clothing for Fiesta Especial® prior to the event.
- **Planning What Needs To Be Done** – Will they purchase or bring their lunch? Will they participate in the Shoebox Parade and make a float? Will they just take advantage of the free rides, or will they save and bring money to play some of the games (\$.50 each). When interacting with the petting zoo, will students need to sanitize their hands after? Should they sanitize their hands before eating lunch? How much water should they drink at an outdoor event? LOTS of planning goes into a trip to Fiesta Especial®!