



Planning for Your Child with Special Needs: Holidays with Extended Family

ACTION	HAVE USED	PLAN TO USE
(1). Empower your child's advocacy.		
(2). Don't label the diagnosis.		
(3). Include your child in discussions.		
(4). Explain disability as "differences."		
(5). Disclose to the right person.		
(6). Explain that disability is not an excuse for poor behavior.		
(7). Describe disability as just part of your child.		

This checklist can serve as a reminder for parents/guardians of individuals with special health care needs on: (1) how to start a conversation with extended family, when necessary and (2) what else may need to be done to improve the Holiday experience.

