- Everyday you should be learning to make decisions about things that affect you and your life.
- You should be talking to the people involved in your life about the things you want to do.
- You need to know who can help you reach your goals.
- It is important that you take part in your
 IEP; it is also your right. After all, it is written for you.
- When you know your preferences and interests, you can help make decisions.
- You should know about the things that make it easier for you to learn (your accommodations).
- You should learn and practice problem solving.



■More Information

- The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act is a federal law that gives students with disabilities the right to a free and appropriate education.
- The Arkansas Department of Education details your rights for you and your parents in a document titled "Your Rights Under the IDEA." A copy of this document can be found on the Arkansas Department of Special Education website (http://arksped.k12.ar.us/documents/ policy/rulesandregulations/A4.pdf)



©2007 Commonwealth of Virginia

Department of Education

Training and Technical Assistance Centers

James Madison University, Radford University,

*Information copied with permission from Virginia Department of Education

www.arkansastransition.com



What Are My Rights As A Student With A Disability?

A Self-Determination Project

Arkansas Transition Services

You have the right to...

■ A Free and Appropriate Public Education

- An evaluation is a way of checking what you know, what you can do, and what you need to know.
- "Appropriate" means your education meets your own needs.

■Appropriate Evaluation

- An "evaluation" is a way of checking what you know. Evaluations may include:
 - **V** a test or quiz in your class;
 - v the Standards of Learning tests;
 - v the special tests you take for eligibility and IEP updates; and/or
 - **V** transition assessment.
- You can have accommodations on these evaluations. The IEP Team will help you decide what you need.

■Individualized Education Program (IEP)

- An IEP is a written statement created all about YOU!
- It is a program for you, your parents and your teachers to follow.
- Your IEP is a very important so your should be a big part of helping to make plans and goals.
- Your IEP will include information about:
- v your strengths and likes;
 v your challenges and dislikes;
 v your classroom performance;
 v your accommodations; and
 v your goals now and in the future.
- People who can help create your IEP:
 - √ YOU!
 - **√** your parents;
 - **v** your teachers and others within your school;
 - **√** representatives from agencies.

■Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)

- You have the right to be in the learning environment in which you will be most successful.
- Your learning environment gives you an opportunity to be with students who do not have disabilities.
- Your leaning environment may change based on your needs in different subject areas.
- You have the right to learn in the "least restrictive environment." You and your IEP Team decide what LRE means for you.

