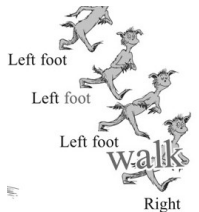




Dr. Seuss Gross Motor Activities Happy Birthday Dr. Seuss



Ten Apples Up On Top - use beanbags or folded washcloths to see how many your child can balance on their head. Try walking forwards, backwards, and side-ways as an extra challenge.



The Foot Book - Using Masking/Painter's tape make a balance beam on the floor. You and your child can try all different variations of "walking" on the line.



Mr. Brown Can Moo! Can You? - Make up as many funny, crazy, silly movements to go with all the things Mr. Brown can do. Pop like a cork - buzz like a bee - clop like a horse - choo choo like a train.

Visit Seussville
 for lots of fun games & activities
<http://www.seussville.com/>

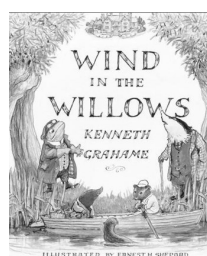
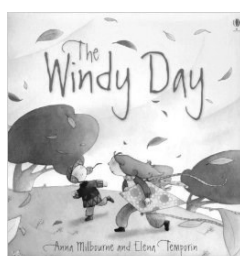


**We Love
 our Social Workers!**
 Thanks for all you do!

The positive support you give your child everyday is pivotal in helping your child stay on track. Your praise, your words of encouragement, and your gentle guidance and support are what will shape your child into the caring, self-reliant adult they will become.

Help your Child's Imagination Take FLIGHT! READ A BOOK!

Visit your local Library to find these and other books about Windy March



March is National Social Work Month All People Matter



This year's theme and logo help raise awareness about the American social work profession's 116-year commitment to improving social conditions and quality of life opportunities for everyone. Social workers across the globe believe that all people have dignity and deserve respect.

Behavior Charts Encourage Acceptable Behavior with Special Rewards and Privileges

You can make a simple chart from construction paper (or download one here http://www.freeprintablebehaviorcharts.com/book_character_behavior_charts.htm) to target specific behaviors you are working on at home with your child. Each day that your child follows the specific behavior put a check in one of the boxes on the chart. When the agreed upon number of checks have been accumulated, your child receives something special from you. Place the chart in a prominent place (refrigerator door, bathroom mirror) as a positive reminder of the benefits of positive behavior choices. Just remember that follow-through is as important with rewards as it is with consequences. If you promise your child a special reward for good behavior choices, give it when it is earned.

Things I Need To Work On!	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
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Spread the Word to End the Word Take the Pledge Today!



Language affects attitudes.
 Attitudes impact actions.

Join with Alternatives For Children and make your pledge to choose respectful people first language.

Make YOUR voice heard!

Take the pledge here <http://www.r-word.org/Pledge.aspx>

Joint Attention Skills and the Child with Autism

By Julie A. Daymut, M.A., CCC-SLP

This article is relevant for everyone.

Joint attention is the ability to share a common focus on something (people, objects, a concept, an event, etc.) with someone else. It involves the ability to gain, maintain, and shift attention. Joint attention serves as a referencing tool that uses mutual gaze (visually focusing on the same thing) and/or gesture for communication. Overall, sharing a focus not only helps individuals communicate, but it helps develop important social skills such as bonding and seeing another's point of view. Joint attention skills can be a predictor of future language development.



Several skills are important for joint attention. Not only do these skills help an individual to get his/her wants and needs met, but they are necessary for appropriate interactions and developing meaningful relationships. These skills are:

- Orienting and attending to a social partner
- Shifting gaze between people and objects
- Sharing emotional states with another person
- Following the gaze and point of another person
- Being able to draw another person's attention to objects or events for the purpose of sharing experiences.



Read the Full Article

http://www.superduperinc.com/handouts/pdf/196_JoinAttentionandASD.pdf

http://www.superduperinc.com/handouts/pdf/196_Spanish.pdf



We Love our Music Therapists!
Miss Suzanne Miss Beth Miss Lee

March is Music Therapy Advocacy Month



The interventions used in Music Therapy aid in fostering skills across the entire developmental spectrum for children with special needs and their typically developing peers. Music Therapists encourage a child's sense of exploration and wonder as they focus on the goals targeted in the child's Individualized Education Program (IEP). Watch as

Elizabeth Schwartz, Alternatives For Children's Music Therapy Supervisor uses Music to accomplish therapeutic and educational goals, improving each child's cognitive, social, physical, psychological and communication functioning.

<http://www.alternatives4children.org/videos/making-music-as-therapy.html>

Discover Proprioception:

A "Hidden" Sense©

By Zoe Mailloux, OTD, OTR/L, FAOTA



Most children learn that we have five senses: sight, sound, taste, touch and smell. However, there are other very important senses not included on this list. Awareness of our body position or "proprioception" is one of these. Because we do not usually teach children about this sense or think about how

much we all use it, most people are not aware of it. This creates an additional challenge when the sense is not working well. If we're not even aware of it, it's hard to understand problems related to it. Just as our eyes and ears send information about what we see and hear to the brain, parts of our muscles and joints sense the position of our body and send these messages to the brain as well. We depend on this information to know exactly where our body parts are and to plan our movements. When our proprioceptive sense works well, we make continual, automatic adjustments in our positions. This sense helps us to stay and to move into optimal positions for everyday activities such as sitting in a chair to do paperwork; holding utensils such as a pen or a fork in the right way; planning how much pressure to exert so we don't break a pencil or a toy; and changing actions that were not successful, such as the throw of a ball that was off target or a dive that turned into a belly flop.

Help Your Child Be More Aware Of Body Position

The following are some examples of proprioceptive-type activities. They may be useful in helping children be more aware of body position and become more calm and organized:

1. Play "backpacking" by placing bags of beans or rice in a child-size backpack. Pretend to be climbing mountains and jumping off rocks at the park or in the backyard.
2. Make a "sandwich" out of your child between the couch cushions. Gently add pressure as you pretend to put on "pickles", "cheese", "lettuce".

Read the Full Article & more suggestions

http://www.zoemailloux.com/uploads/1/6/0/8/16088620/discover_proprioception-a_hidden_sense.pdf

Watch as OT Supervisor Maria Hansen Explains it All!

<http://www.alternatives4children.org/videos/maria-hansen-alternatives-for-children.html>