



The Southeast ASD Scoop

May 2011
Volume 2, Issue 8

Do You Suffer From This Disorder?

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Ruth Aspy, co-author of the Ziggurat Model, frequently talks in her workshops about adults that have a difficult time giving and understanding the benefits of reinforcement when working with individuals with autism or Asperger's Syndrome.

Here's Ruth's take on why some adults may struggle with reinforcement! I hope that you enjoy this—Have a great summer!

REINFORCEMENT STINGINESS DISORDER ... Adult Onset – (666.00)

(A) Qualitative impairment in reinforcement delivery behaviors, as manifested by at least two of the following:

1. Marked Impairment in the use of praise and positive feedback in response to demonstrations of new skills
2. Failure to reinforce behaviors that were prompted, or modeled
3. A lack of spontaneous seeking to encourage achievements of others (e.g., by a lack of giving, or delivering a reinforcer following a goal behavior)
4. Delay in, or total lack of, the development of compassion for those who are reinforced by non-traditional reinforcers or who achieve skills at a rate different from their typically developing peers
5. In individuals with adequate

speech, marked impairment in the ability to distinguish "fair" from "equal"

6. Stereotyped and repetitive use of ineffective strategies such as delivering punishment in order to change behaviors related to a neurological disorder

7. Lack of varied, spontaneous approaches to maintaining meaningful reinforcers for all learners

(B) Onset post 21 years of age

(C). The disturbance is not better accounted for by lack of common sense or the belief that you can "punish the Aspergers" out of someone

Used with permission from Ruth Aspy.



Sensory Suggestions, Part 7

Sensory needs are very common in students on the autism spectrum. If sensory needs are not addressed, students are not able to regulate their bodies, thus increasing the likelihood of behaviors. The past six issues have highlighted the vestibular, proprioceptive, tactile, auditory, visual and gustatory systems. Activities to address those systems were included. This month we are highlighting the olfactory, or smell,

system. Please consult with your Occupational Therapist before implementing any sensory activities with your student.

Sensory System: Olfactory (smell)

Location of this system: Chemical receptors in the nasal structure

Function: Provides information about different types of smell

Activities for students experiencing challenges in the olfactory

system:

- Mask environmental odors by using...
 - Diffusers
 - Room fresheners
- Allow a break from all the environmental sensory input; this often helps to reset the system to be ready to cope again

- Try having the student hold something, such as a scented cloth or tissue lightly over their nose
- Help build tolerance over time if it is a scent that can not be avoided

Suggestions taken from: "Practical Solutions for Stabilizing Students with Classic Autism to Be Reading to Learn: Getting to Go!" by Judy Endow, MSW. (2010) Autism Asperger Publishing Company.

Summer Training Opportunities

There are several training opportunities that are schedule for this summer. For flyers for each workshop and instructions on how to register, please go to:

http://www.esu6.org/services/asd_home.htm

or

<http://seasdnetwork.wordpress.com>

If you have any questions about the trainings, please call or email me!

Thanks!

Melissa Trautman

May

May 24th - ESU 5, Beatrice

Strategies for the Regular Ed Classroom for Working with Student with Disabilities (focusing on High Functioning Autism and Asperger Syndrome)

May 25th - ESU 5, Beatrice

Introduction to Verbal Behavior and use of the VB-MAPP

June

June 2nd - ESU 6, Milford

Introduction to High Functioning Autism/Asperger Syndrome

June 3rd - ESU 3, Omaha

Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders

June 6th and 7th — ESU 6, Milford

Structured Teaching Workshop—(Participants must attend both days)

June 8th - ESU 6, Milford

Planning for Social Skills Instruction

June 20th and 21th - ESU 3, Omaha

Introduction to Verbal Behavior (this is a 4 day workshop—the other two days will be scheduled in October)

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Check Us Out on the Web !

<http://unl.edu/asdnetwork>

http://www.esu6.org/services/asd_home.htm

<http://seasdnetwork.wordpress.com>

SAVE THE DATE!

Nebraska State ASD Conference

April 12th and 13th, 2012

The Cornhusker Hotel, Lincoln, NE

We need your input!

We will start scheduling trainings and workshops for the 2011-2012 school year over the summer and would like your input on specific topics that you would like more information on. If you have time, please complete the following survey to give your input for next year! Thank you!

Go to: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QYYSQKS> to complete the survey!