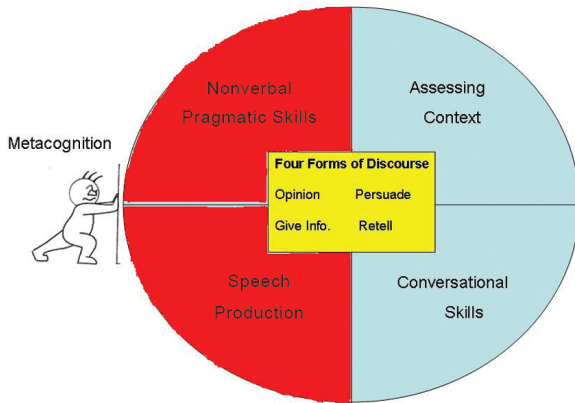


What will my child receive for instruction?

Your child will receive **Social Pragmatics** skills instruction in a small group setting.

ADePT Model: What Good Social Communicators Do



- Based on a conceptual model of what good social communicators do and how they do it.
- Centered around four forms of discourse that are used to establish and maintain relationships.
- Four forms of discourse that are entry points to mastering foundational and advanced/critical pragmatic skills.
- Metacognition (thinking about thinking) component – teaching students strategies to navigate and think about social situations.



Boston College and Northeastern University Researchers

Seeking 10–11 Year Olds

Needing to Develop Proficiency in Social Pragmatic Language Skills

(Including those with Asperger Syndrome, High Functioning Autism, Learning Disabilities, PDD-NOS)

For further information and/or to apply, please contact:

Tel: 617.552.6209

Email: adept@bc.edu



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Research Project to Validate An Innovative Social Pragmatic Language Skills Curriculum

- Previously tested pragmatic skills instructional model & curriculum
- Group instruction and learning activities
- Has been validated with children (7-9 yr. olds)
- 12-14 clinic sessions to be held January – May 2010
- 90 min. Saturday morning clinic sessions will be held in The Fenway (Boston) area
- Tuition-free
- Parent involvement required

What are the instructional practices the model is built on?

The social skills model is built on instructional practices that research has shown to be effective for learning:

- Small group instruction.
- Intensive skill instruction.
- Lessons made relevant to the children.
- Multiple opportunities for practice.
- Focuses on combining basic (voice, volume and intonation) and advanced/critical (e.g., turn taking, maintaining and changing a topic) pragmatic skills.
- Opportunities for parents to observe their child's sessions.
- Engaging students in learning.
- Using humor — Making the groups FUN!!!

What are the benefits of my child and me participating in the study?

- Child receives social skills instruction free of charge.
- Regular group of peers outside of school for your child to socialize with.
- Parent observation.
- Half of parents randomly selected for additional parent training/support.
- Opportunity for other parents to receive support/training at conclusion of intervention.

- Participate in study that may inform researchers and practitioners on what works for social skills intervention.
- Participate in study that adds to Speech and Language profession knowledge base and possibly indirectly benefits other children.

Eligibility

- Child birth date between December 31, 1998 – January 1, 2000.
- No more than 2 years out of grade placement.
- Diagnosis of Asperger Syndrome, Fragile X, High Functioning Autism, Learning Disability, PDD-NOS or similar condition. (Children without a diagnosis may be placed on a waiting list for possible inclusion.)
- Child able to: verbally participate in reciprocal communication, communicate using complete sentences, participate in sessions with appropriate behavior.
- Child must be English language proficient.
- Full Scale IQ score (FSIQ) 80 or above (tested at least by 1/1/2007).
- Parent consent, and child assent, for child to participate in study.
- Parent(s) consent to participate in companion study (if randomly selected).

- If randomly selected, parent(s) will participate in a total of up to 8 classes and a debriefing session.
- Parents not randomly selected will have the option of receiving the same training at the end of the study.
- Child will participate in 1 follow-up group session in September 2010 (Saturday morning).
- Parent(s) agrees to complete a follow-up questionnaire and interview in September 2010.

Summary

- Opportunity for your child to participate in exciting social skills intervention.
- Tuition-free!
- Parent training to support parents in fostering social skills improvement in their children.
- Groups held in Boston (Fenway area) – convenient by car and public transportation. Parking available.
- This is a research study approved by Boston College and Northeastern University.

Where and how do I sign up?

For further information and/or to apply, please contact:

Tel: 617.552.6209

Email: adept@bc.edu