

Session Descriptions



Paula Kluth
Ph.D.

"You're Going to Love this Kid!": Supporting Students with Autism in the Inclusive Classroom

In this keynote session, participants will consider how language drives practice and how our understanding of human difference can be either a barrier or a tool in the inclusive classroom. Dr. Kluth will share stories of positive practices in inclusive schools and discuss how rejecting a deficit model and exploiting strengths can benefit both students and their teachers. Three powerful strategies will be shared and two teacher-tested tools will be highlighted.



Nancy Tarshis
MA, MS CCC-SLP

Social Thinking, Social Learning and Becoming a Social Detective

This talk will focus on understanding the concept of social competence and the impact of social learning differences in the academic sector. We will discuss differentiated teaching and a few key strategies for honoring and supporting neurodiverse students in meeting personal goals at school.



Anton Shcherbakov
Psy.D., BCBA

Teaching Emotional Awareness and Regulation Strategies to Children with Autism

Children with ASD often experience difficulty identifying emotions in themselves and in others. Prior research has demonstrated that these deficits subsequently produce significant emotional regulation challenges. Difficulties with emotional awareness and regulation not only impact social relationships but can also inhibit the development of independent functioning across a variety of settings. In this workshop, we will review typical emotional awareness and regulation deficits among children with ASD. We will then discuss how to implement simple interventions that seek to improve emotional awareness and regulation skills.



Bianca Coleman
Ph.D., NCSP,
BCBA-D

Support for Challenges with Feeding and Toileting: From Assessment to Intervention

Many children diagnosed with Autism experience some degree of difficulty with either feeding or toileting. This discussion aims to provide practical guidelines for evaluating the impact of challenges in these areas as well as identifying the next steps for assessment and treatment.



Keira Moore
Ph.D., BCBA-D,
LBA

Rest Assured: Solutions for Childhood Sleep Problems

More than half of all children experience sleep problems at some point in their lives, and those numbers are even higher for children on the autism spectrum. Join Dr. Keira Moore, a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and sleep expert as she shares her top strategies for assessing and treating childhood sleep problems. We will discuss why sleep is so important for children (and adults), the main causes of most childhood sleep problems, and simple and effective strategies for teaching healthy sleep habits that will last a lifetime. Bring your questions- we'll save some time at the end for a Q + A, and Dr. Moore will provide some resources if you need to find follow up support.

Session Objectives

"You're Going to Love this Kid!": Supporting Students with Autism in the Inclusive Classroom

- Be introduced to an “inside out” understanding of autism
- Consider a strengths-based vs. a deficit-based model of understanding autism
- Explore learning needs related to autism
- Learn benefits of inclusive schools
- Learn strategies for supporting learners on the autism spectrum (e.g., listening, building on interests, encouraging movement)

Social Thinking, Social Learning and Becoming a Social Detective

- Explain the importance of social observation to group learning and how to teach it using the social thinking vocabulary.
- Explain the connection between academic standards, social learning, and the Social Thinking Social Competency Model.
- Define how teaching Social Thinking is different than teaching social skills.

Teaching Emotional Awareness and Regulation Strategies to Children with Autism

- Participants will be able to identify typical deficits in emotional awareness and regulation among children with autism spectrum disorders.
- Participants will be able to describe behavioral interventions for teaching emotional awareness and regulation to children with autism.
- Participants will be able implement strategies for improving emotional awareness and regulation among children with autism.

Support for Challenges with Feeding and Toileting: From Assessment to Intervention

- Participants will be able to identify when difficulties in these areas have the potential to negatively affect the child's functioning and progress in other areas.
- Participants will be able to identify and implement various assessment methods to determine the impact and severity of issues in these areas.
- Participants will be able to outline evidence-based interventions plan for feeding, and toileting challenges.

Rest Assured: Solutions for Childhood Sleep Problems

- Describe three potential health risks associated with childhood sleep problems.
- Name the four causes of most childhood sleep problems.
- Describe two different strategies for teaching healthy sleep habits to children