

PEPSA



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Free!

Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism

Gainesville, Florida

EMBEDDING SOCIAL OPPORTUNITIES DURING LITERACY INSTRUCTION

Presented by: Dr. Maureen Conroy & Dr. Kelly Whalon

May 15, 2012

8:30 am – 3:30 pm

**ONLINE VIA ADOBE
CONNECT**

See Participation Instructions

Registration Information:

REGISTRATION IS MANDATORY

DEADLINE: May 14, 2012

Limited to first 100 participants

Register online at

<http://doepartnership.fmhi.usf.edu/trainings.cfm>

For more information contact:

Alissa Yax at aba777@ufl.edu

1-800-9-AUTISM | 352-273-0581

Participation Instructions:

Once you have registered you will receive instructions via email on how to participate through Adobe Connect

Be sure to contact your ESE District Staff or Staff Development Contact to determine the process for receiving in-service.

About the Presenter

Dr. Maureen Conroy is a professor of Special Education and Early Childhood Studies in the Department of Special Education, School Psychology, and Early Childhood Studies at the University of Florida. Dr. Conroy has extensive experience in conducting early intervention research with children who are at risk for or have social and behavioral disabilities, including children with autism spectrum disorders. She has served as PI on a number of externally funded projects. Currently, she is PI on an Institute of Educational Sciences grant investigating the development and implementation of a classroom-based intervention model designed for use by early childhood teachers in classroom settings. Additionally, she is completing a grant from the National Institute of Health (NIH) that examines the function of prosocial behaviors in young children with autism spectrum disorders. Her research interests and expertise focus primarily on intervention research to prevent and ameliorate social, emotional, and behavioral challenges of young children with autism and social, emotional, and behavioral challenges. Dr. Conroy has an extensive publication record in the field of autism, early intervention, and behavioral disorders with over 60 referred articles and chapters. Additionally, she is a regular presenter at international conferences on topics related to autism and behavioral disorders.

Dr. Kelly Whalon is an Associate Scholar at the University of Florida (UF) in the School of Special Education, School Psychology, and Early Childhood Studies. Dr. Whalon has experience conducting research in the areas of literacy and ASD. Currently, Dr. Whalon is the project coordinator of an IES grant funded intervention study to improve the early social and behavioral skills of children at-risk for emotional/behavioral problems. Dr. Whalon's research interests focus on the reading, language, behavior, and social skills of children with ASD. Dr. Whalon has contributed to book chapters, and regularly presents at National conferences on the topic of reading development and children with ASD.

Training Description

This presentation will describe the social communication characteristics of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), and discuss implications of these characteristics on educational performance. Specifically, the presenters will explore ways to embed opportunities for social interaction throughout the school day with a particular focus on literacy instruction. Strategies discussed will include evidence-based practices shown to enhance the social communication of children with ASD (e.g., peer-mediated instruction, scripts) in the context of research-based reading interventions.



Florida Department of Education



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