

# PEPSA



## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

# Free!

Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism

### Gainesville, Florida

## SUMMER LITERACY INSTITUTE:

## SLAYING THE READING COMPREHENSION & WRITING COMPOSITION DRAGONS

Presented by: Catherine Zenko, M.S. CCC-SLP & Michelle Hite, M.S., CCC-SLP Hosted by: UF CARD

**July 21 - 23, 2015**

9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Registration begins at 8:30 am

**UF CARD Office**

2046 NE Waldo Road  
Gainesville FL 32609

### Registration Information:

**REGISTRATION IS  
MANDATORY**

**DEADLINE: July 20, 2015**

**Limited to first 25 participants.**

Register online at

[www.doepartnership.org/trainings.html](http://www.doepartnership.org/trainings.html)

For more information contact:

Carole Polefko

[cpolefko@ufl.edu](mailto:cpolefko@ufl.edu) or 352-273-0598

### Directions:

In Person:

For directions click [HERE](#)

or



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

### About the Presenters

**Catherine Zenko, MS, CCC-SLP** is an assistant director of the UF Center for Autism and Related Disabilities (CARD) and is an adjunct lecturer at the University of Florida Department of Speech Language-Hearing Sciences. She has served hundreds of persons with autism, their families, and caregivers; has conducted trainings on local, regional, and national levels on a wide range of topics related to ASD; and is the co-author of two books: Janzen & Zenko (2012) *Understanding the Nature of Autism: A Guidebook to the Autism Spectrum Disorders, 3rd Edition*, and Zenko & Hite (2013) *Here's How to Provide Intervention for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Balanced Approach*.

**Michelle Hite, MS, CCC-SLP** has worked as a speech language pathologist for more than 10 years, specializing in the areas of autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and oral and written language disorders. She has worked with individuals with ASD and their families, school professionals, and community members in various settings. Michelle currently works as clinical faculty at the University of South Florida Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, where she provides clinical instruction to graduate students in speech language pathology and is the co-author of Zenko & Hite (2013) *Here's How to Provide Intervention for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder: A Balanced Approach*.

### Training Description

This Summer Institute will focus on the unique learning styles of students with ASD and how it affects their academic performance, specifically in reading comprehension and writing composition. Each day will provide explanations of the underlying reasons why students with ASD struggle with Language Arts and provide a framework to create meaningful accommodations using a balance of lecture, discussion, activities, and planning. The course will be offered to a limited amount of participants both **in-person and online via Adobe Connect where discussion and brainstorming will be encouraged.** Participants who complete the 3 day training will receive a copy of Boucher & Oehler (2013) *I Hate to Write: Tips for Helping Students with Autism Spectrum and Related Disorders Increase Achievement, Meet Academic Standards, and Become Happy, Successful Writers.*

### Training Objectives

Participants will be able to:

- Describe how the core symptoms of ASD and related cognitive learning characteristics negatively impact learning of FL Standards in the area of Language Arts (Speaking and Listening, Language Standards, Reading and Writing Standards domains)
- Choose evidence based language and literacy strategies to support intervention for Language Arts Standards
- Create various accommodations for students with ASD to help improve reading comprehension and writing composition tasks/activities.



Regional Trainings are hosted by the Center for Autism and Related Disabilities, through the Partnership for Effective Programs for Students with Autism (PEPSA), a program funded by the State of Florida, Department of Education, K-12 Public Schools, Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services, through federal assistance under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B. [www.DOEpartnership.org](http://www.DOEpartnership.org)