

Upcoming Ed Spec Events

Education Spectrum offers a series of on-going parent training sessions for parents with children with autism spectrum disorders. We meet the third Thursday of every month from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. There is a featured speaker at every meeting.

Interested families should RSVP by calling Debbie at (626) 797-1500. There is a fee of \$50.00. Regional Center Vendored

January 17, 2008

"How to Play With and Plan Play Dates for Your Child with ASD". This lecture, presented by Dr. Laurie Stephens, our Clinical Psychologist, will cover the development of play skills in children and how it differs for children with ASD. We will discuss play-based parenting skills to help parents learn to facilitate play at home. We will also discuss how to go about setting up play dates for children so that they are successful and fun. The talk is appropriate for parents who have children with all levels of ASD and who are preschool to elementary school aged.

Dr. Stephens' Golden Rules

Focus on the positive and reinforce it: The best way to eliminate negative behaviors is to reinforce the positive behaviors the child engages in throughout the day. We can forget to focus on appropriate behaviors because they are expected behaviors. However, giving children attention and reinforcement for the things they do right will increase the likelihood they will repeat those behaviors. For example, praising children for the homework they have already completed is more effective in getting them to finish than yelling at them to finish it. Statements like, "Wow, I see you've been working hard on your homework. I'll bet you'll be finished in no time at all" tend to motivate the child to actually finish. When the child does finish, it is important to give some kind of reinforcement, such as a treat, a token or praise.



Free! No Charge! Happening at the Farm

AUTISM SPEAKS DAY AT DANNY'S FARM

Join us on Sunday, January 27 from 1:00 – 3:00 pm. Bring the family to play with the animals in a safe, enclosed setting.

Space is limited so please RSVP by January 21 to Sarah Belcher at 323-549-0500 x 765 or sbelcher@autismspeaks.org.

JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!

Please forward this newsletter to all your friends who would be interested in learning more about Danny's Farm and Education Spectrum.



Many thanks to John & Vicki York of Valley Village for graciously donating this truck for use at Danny's Farm.