

NEWS AND
INFORMATION
FOR
FEAT BC
MEMBERS

F.E.A.T. of B.C.



F.E.A.T. of B.C.

Dedicated to "Medically Necessary" autism treatment

P.E.I. Government Approves Lovaas

Successful lobbying efforts of ABA parents and pediatricians in PEI, have resulted in new government programs for early autism intervention. The P.E.I. Government is now providing every child with autism between the age of diagnosis and 18 years of age, 20 hours of intensive, one-on-one intervention, and 3 visits a year from U.S. behavioural consultants. Although this is only 50% of what most children need, it is an important start.

Lovaas ABA Adopted in Quebec

After nearly 10 years of lobbying the Quebec Health Care System, Lovaas ABA parents in that province (represented by the Society for Autism and other PDD's of Greater Montreal), have finally begun Government sponsored intensive early intervention programs for preschoolers with autism. It is a pilot project but they are certain that

Who We Are

Families for Early Autism Treatment of British Columbia (F.E.A.T. of B.C.) is dedicated to bring the most effective type of autism treatment available, to the children of British Columbia (Lovaas-type Applied Behavior Analysis - A.B.A.). A central part of our mission is to make Lovaas-type A.B.A. autism treatment universally accessible to all B.C. children afflicted with autism spectrum disorders regardless of ability to pay.

F.E.A.T. of B.C.:

- is a clearing house for information on Lovaas-style autism treatment
- is an entry point to behavioural treatment for newly diagnosed children to connect with treatment professionals

Nova Scotia P.C.'s & NDP Support Autism Treatment

The Progressive Conservative Party of Nova Scotia has included early autism treatment in their party platform. Two million dollars have been earmarked to reduce assessment wait-times and to provide early treatment for children believed to have autism or PDD. The New Democratic Party of Nova Scotia followed suit and indicated that they too would assign a high priority to improving services like diagnosis, early intervention and treatment of Autism and P.D.D.

funding will continue in the future. 40 children will be enrolled in the pilot program by the end of the 1st year. The government of Quebec has agreed to fund the services of a U.S. Behavioral Consultant who is an expert in Lovaas ABA. This comes closely on the heels of the death of a 10 year old autistic child who was drowned by his mother who had fought for services to help him but had lost.

and help set up programs

- is a society that offers education via workshops and seminars with recognized leaders in the field of Lovaas-type A.B.A.
- educates psychiatrists, pediatricians and educational professionals regarding the effectiveness and importance of early autism diagnosis and intensive treatment via Lovaas-type A.B.A.
- has obtained the formal endorsement of 63 B.C. psychiatrists certifying Lovaas-type A.B.A. as medically necessary treatment that must be made universally available and funded by the Medical Services Plan of British Columbia or the Ministry of Health or both.

New Early Intervention Course at UBC: "Special Topics 390-D"

The Autism Education Society is cosponsoring an early intervention course with the University of British Columbia. The course, Early Intervention: 390-D, will cover theories, key studies, and program evaluations of early intervention projects for children either diagnosed with, or at risk for, developmental delays. The course is open to graduate students in the departments of Psychology, Education, and Human Development, as well as other students with permission from the instructor.

Dr. Tristram Smith has set up, and is the investigator for, two research projects -- the Northwest Young Autism Project and the Multi-site Young Autism Project. He presently has a research and teaching position at Washington State University. In addition to research and teaching experience, Tristram Smith has traveled throughout the world to establish early autism intervention programs for professionals working with this affected population.

Since graduating from U.C.L.A., Dr. Smith has continued to add greatly to the field both in his capacity as researcher and clinician. Of the body of research that has been published over the last 20 years in the field of behavioural treatment for children with autism, Dr. Smith has been directly involved in much of it, either through the continued collaboration with Dr. Lovaas, or independently. Smith was involved in the original, landmark study which tested this method of intervention (Lovaas, 1987) and coauthored the significant follow-up study (McEachin, Smith and Lovaas, 1993). In addition, he has written extensively about

various aspects of the treatment such as skill generalization across settings, treatment of destructive behaviours amongst children with developmental disabilities, memory and learning, lack of success with children with Retts Disorder, and sex differences between males and females with developmental disabilities. Smith also has written on the errors made within this method and new approaches which avoid them.

- **Location:** University of British Columbia, offered by the Department of Educational Psychology
 - **Dates:** July 5 - 25, 1998
 - **Time:** Monday - Friday, 1:30 - 4:00 PM
 - **For more information:** Ph. 604-822-9223
- UBC Students: If you are currently attending UBC in a different faculty, please phone Educational Psychology for information on how to register Ph.: 604-822-8229.

FEAT of BC & Government

FEAT BC has recently completed an education program for Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLA's) and Members of Parliament (MP's) . **All key politicians are now aware of the autism treatment problem** and can now be held responsible and accountable for its timely resolution.

The FEAT BC Petition

Thank you to all those who participated in the Petition Drive! Stay tuned for more information in our next newsletter!

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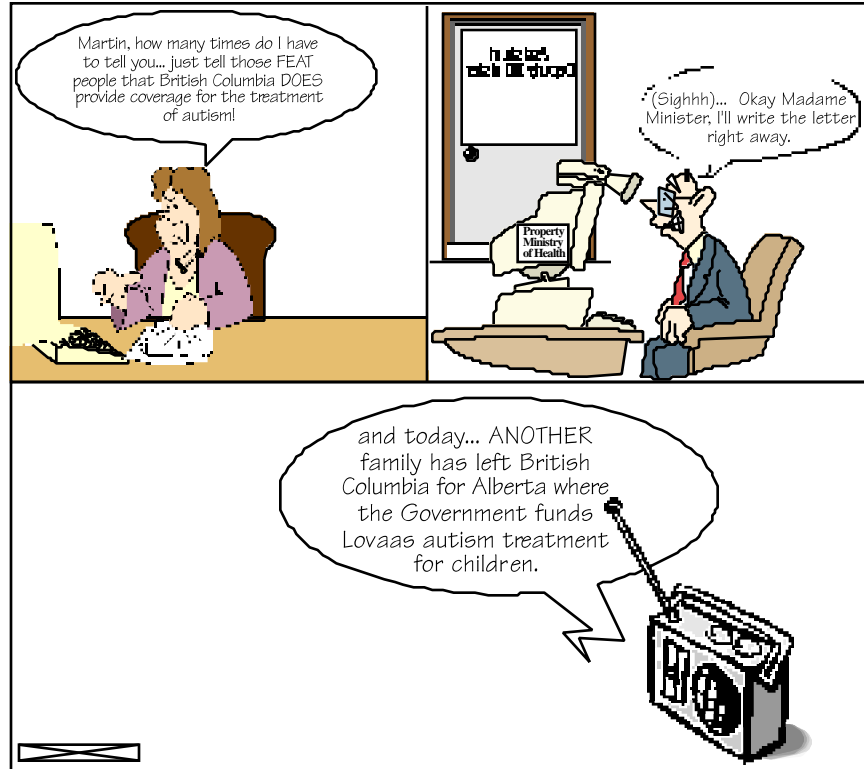
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F.E.A.T. of B.C. is an independent association of parents and concerned professionals.

- **Government Funding:** \$000,000.00
- **Paid Professionals:** None
- **Volunteers:** 100%
- **FEAT BC powered by:** Our Children's Futures

Plus | on | review



Class Action Suit in New York

In a class action lawsuit brought on behalf of autistic children in the state, four parents have sued the State, Westchester County and **New York City Health Departments** on charges that the defendants failed to provide appropriate treatment for their children as required by law. Infants and toddlers with autism or a related condition known as [PDD] are entitled to free treatment in New York State. State law requires that autistic infants and toddlers receive individualized treatment aimed at reducing the need for special education and institutionalized care later on.

What's Happening

Upcoming events with A.B.A. and/or FEAT content.

• “The Genetics of Autism” - Stanford Autism Genetics Study

Speaker: Dr. Donna Spiker, Stanford University School of Medicine

Where: U.B.C., in IRC #2

When: 7:00 pm
May 11, 1998

Cost: Free of charge

For more information, please contact FEAT BC Ph (604)534-6956.

• FEAT BC Autism Behavioral Therapists Training Workshop

Bring you therapy team up to speed with a high powered one-day workshop delivered by two capable and experienced senior therapists. This workshop, given by **Sharon Baxter & Rachel Russell** focuses on the practical aspects of delivering effective behavioural autism treatment.

where U.B.C., Scarff Building, Room 1005

when: May 9, 1998, 9 am. to 5 p.m.

cost \$20.00 (\$5.00 for all-day parking)

For more information contact:

Sharon Baxter Ph (604)531-2467

• F.E.A.T. of Washington

Our FEAT neighbours are sponsoring a two-day conference featuring a number of prominent people in the field. Speakers: **Catherine Maurice, Ph.D., Gina Green, Ph.D., Tristram Smith, Ph.D., Eric London, MD., Geraldine Dawson, Ph.D., et. al.**

where: Meydenbauer Centre, Bellevue, WA

when: May 2-3, 1998

For more information: (206)499-FEAT or

<http://members/aol.com/featwa> or

email FEATWA@aol.com



• ACT NOW Conference

Although the ACT NOW conference is not sponsored by folks with an ABA focus, there are notable ABA speakers such as **Richard Foxx, Ph.D.** and **Laura Schreibman, Ph.D.** In addition, a renowned scientist, **Isabelle Rapin, Ph.D.** - Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York - will be speaking in Kamloops. She will be fascinating for anyone interested in the neurobiology of autism and the search for a cure.

Where: Kamloops, B.C.

When: April 23, 24, and 25, 1998

Cost: Early Bird Registration \$175.00

Thank you to Dr. Jill Calder, M.D., FRCPC (Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation) for including the ABA perspective in the Kamloops conference. For more information call:

Ph. (250)851-4033 fax (250)376-2231

• New UBC Course on Early Intervention: “Special Topics 390-D”

This “3 weeks in a semester” course is sponsored by the Autism Education Society (AES) and the Department of Educational Psychology and Special Education. The professor teaching the course is **Dr. Tristram Smith**, Assistant Professor of Psychology at Washington State University and research Director for a multi-site study evaluating behavioral treatment for preschool age children with autism.

where: U.B.C. Educational Psychology Dept.,

EPSE 390 D, Special Topics

when: July 5 to 25, 1998

times: Mon.-Fri. 1:30-4:00 PM

other: the course is also available in the UBC Summer Catalogue, Course #10902, registration began March 12, 1998.

• Early Intervention Course

This 5 day course given by **Shelley Davis, M.A., J.D.**, is open only to experienced therapists who have worked with at least two children for at least a year.

where: U.B.C.

when: July 27th to 31st, 1998

times: Mon-Fri. 9:00 to 5:00 pm

other: see the feature article in this newsletter for more information.

• New York State Association for Behavioral Analysis - 1998 Annual conference

This is an important two day ABA conference on the East coast. The conference is on: Quality Behavioural Approaches; Effective Strategies for Parents and Practitioners.

where: Tarrytown, NY

when: September 25-26, 1998

other: for more information call:

518-270-2494

Stanford Research in the Genetics of Autism

FEAT BC is sponsoring an evening lecture on current research at Stanford University in the genetic causes of autism and implications for improved treatment methods. The lecture will be presented by a leading scholar in the field of autism research --- Dr. Donna Spiker of the Stanford Autism Research Program.

Dr. Donna Spiker is the Clinical Director of the Stanford Autism Genetics Project, Department of Psychiatry, Stanford University School of Medicine. She has been working on this ground breaking project since 1990.

Currently she also is Co-Principal Investigator for the National Early Intervention Longitudinal Study (NEILS), being conducted at SRI international, Menlo Park, California for the U.S. Department of Education. This U.S. study gathers data from a national sample about the children and families receiving early intervention services.

Dr. Spiker is a developmental psychologist with over 20 years of experience conducting clinical research about early development and assessment and about the effects of early intervention on infants and preschoolers with a variety of disabilities.

Formerly, Dr. Spiker served as the Deputy Director of the Infant Health and Development Program (IHDP), an eight site clinical trial of the effects of early intervention on low birth weight premature children. She is coeditor of a book about this project, as well as the author of numerous journal articles and book chapters.

Location: University of British Columbia, IRC #2

Date: Monday, May 11, 1998

Time: 7:00 PM

Cost: Free of charge

For more information, please contact:

Dr. Sabrina Freeman,

FEAT of B.C. Ph.: 604-534-6956

Fax.: 604-534-9527

e-mail: featbc@biogate.com



The *Genetics of Autism* lecture, is sponsored by Families for Early Autism Treatment of British Columbia and the Stanford University School of Medicine

Early Intervention - A Five Day Course

F.E.A.T. of B.C. is sponsoring a 5-day Summer course for senior therapists on the behavioural treatment of young children with autism, derived from the principles of Lovaas-type Applied Behaviour Analysis (A.B.A.).

This course is ideal for the experienced, senior therapist planning a career in the field of behavioural treatment for children with autism. The five day, intensive course will cover higher level aspects of behavioral intervention.

Prerequisite:

- minimum 1 year experience working with 2 or more children with autism spectrum disorders
- an entrance exam must be completed by all course participants.

About the Instructor...

Shelley Davis, M.A., J.D.,
Behavioral Consultant, LEAP (Language and Education Assistance for Preschoolers)

Ms. Davis is one of the preeminent consultants in the behavioral treatment of autism. She has 15 years of experience and is recognized as one of the most effective practitioners of Lovaas-type ABA.

- Course Location: to be announced
- Dates: Mon, July 27 to Friday, July 31st, 1998
- Time: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Registration: contact FEAT of BC for placement exam.

The “System” Failed My Child

A column by Barbara Rodrigues on her experience with an Okanagan professional who withheld knowledge regarding Lovaas Autism Treatment.

My Side

I am relatively new to the Lovaas-type ABA approach and FEAT of B.C. My son is now 4-years-old and I am waiting for my Behavioural Consultant to come and set up my son’s program. This treatment option was known by some in our community, yet the knowledge of it was intentionally kept from me. My son is still nonverbal, has no self-help skills (not feeding/toileting/dressing/undressing) and has no social skills. The anger I feel at being denied the knowledge of this treatment option is indescribable - I have tried to write it in words but my rage is too overwhelming. So, a wise woman I spoke with told me I must just move on -- I am doing so. I have erased those people from my little boy’s life. But I wanted to share what I wrote, in response to one of those people asking to come over and discuss “their side.” Their side being the reasons they denied me knowledge of this treatment choice. Their side being why they don’t like this approach - having never been involved in it.

Your Side?

You want to tell me your side? Well, I don’t want to *hear* your side.
For you *have* no side.
You were paid to help my son and you did not.

You haven’t earned the ‘*right*’ to have a side.
You haven’t held a screaming raging child for 4 hours at a stretch.
You haven’t not had a good night’s sleep in four years.
You haven’t held my son through numerous blood tests, brain scans, doctors appointments so that everyone can dissect him in the quest for a diagnosis.
You haven’t sat there and felt the overwhelming weight of emotion and fear at being told, “Your child has autism”
Or seen the look of complete sorrow in the eyes of the Doctor as she says, “I don’t know what his future holds.”

So you have *definitely* not earned the right to have a side.
You haven’t changed a thousand diapers
Or had to sit on a screaming, thrashing child just to get him dressed or brush his teeth.
You haven’t stayed at home or away from group events because being around other people would send your son into a tantrum.
Or watched at the park as my son walked past the playground and the children to stare vacantly at the water.
You haven’t felt the sorrow as another Christmas, another birthday, another holiday comes and your child is still unaware of it.

You do not have a side
For you have not listened with envy as other parents talk of their kids’ hockey trips, birthday parties, after school activities or friends.
You have not stood there wondering/hoping/praying that *someday* - just maybe - that might be you.
Or had people tell you, “Oh, just have another baby and you will have all those things”, as if to say, “Just give up on this one.”

But the most important reason you don’t have a side...
You must have *never* seen the look of complete sorrow and frustration in my son’s eyes as he tries so *desperately* to communicate but cannot
Or felt the helplessness of watching as he hits himself in that same frustration and anger.
You must not see the little boy inside those eyes - trapped.
You must not believe in his potential or his ability
For if you really saw and felt those things, you could never, would never have denied him this hope.

And that is *my* side.

Barbara Rodrigues
Mother of Jeremy

Barbara Rodrigues is a contributing columnist to the FEAT BC newsletter.

ABA on the Net

- FEAT BC
<http://www.biogate.com/featbc>
- The FEAT BC “virtual” Discussion Group
<http://chat.digital-web.net>

The place to chat with other FEAT members without having to leave home. To request a free user account, send an email to FEAT BC at: FEATbc@biogate.com

- FEAT of Alberta
<http://members.aol.com/featab/>
- FEAT of Washington
<http://members.aol.com/featwa/>
- FEAT of Sacramento
<http://www.feat.org/feat/>
- FEAT of Oregon
<http://www.rdrop.com/users/feator/>
- FEAT of Nebraska
<http://www.top.net/nebfeat/>
- FEAT of Kansas
<http://www.kansaautism.com/>
- PEACH (United Kingdom)
<http://home.clara.net/peach/index.html>
- **The Recovery Zone**
<http://pages.prodigy.net/damianporcari/recovery.htm/>

Excellent web source of information.

- The “ME List”
rallen@INDYVAX.IUPUI.EDU

The internet mailing list for those interested in Lovaas-type A.B.A. issues. Now over 1300 strong, request it in digest form - this is a VERY active list. Send an e-note to Ruth telling her why you would like to join the list.

We Need Your Stories

The FEAT BC newsletter needs contributing writers. Any FEAT BC parents who want to contribute -- we welcome your input. Please join this part of our important movement.

Food for Thought

“The Mountain”

There were two warring tribes in the Andes, one that lived in the lowlands and the other high in the mountains. The mountain people invaded the lowlanders one day, and as a part of their plundering of the people, they kidnapped a baby of one of the lowlander families and took the infant with them back up into the mountains.

The lowlanders didn't know how to climb the mountain. They didn't know any of the trails that the mountain people used, and they didn't know where to find the mountain people or how to track them in the steep terrain.

Even so, they sent out their best party of fighting men to climb the mountain and bring the baby home.

The men tried first one method of climbing and then another. They tried one trail and then another. After several days of effort, however, they had climbed only several hundred feet.

Feeling hopeless and helpless, the lowlander men decided that the cause was lost, and they prepared to return to their village below.

As they were packing their gear for the descent, they saw the baby's mother walking toward them. They realized that she was coming DOWN the mountain that they hadn't figured out how to climb.

And then they saw that she had the baby strapped to her back. HOW COULD THAT BE?

One man greeted her and said, "We couldn't climb this mountain. How did you do this when we, the strongest and most able men in the village couldn't do it?"

She shrugged her shoulders and said, "It wasn't your baby".

Jim Stovall (circa 1997)

Spotlight on Sunny Hill Health Centre for Children

Many parents of children with autism have often asked, "What is it that Sunny Hill does anyway?" In other words, what is their mandate? Well, according to Sunny Hill, "*The Development and Behaviour Program* sees children and youth with complex developmental/or behavioural difficulties which may affect a child's sensory, social, emotional, and/or motor development. These difficulties included **speech and language disorders**, fine and gross motor problems, hyperactivity, learning disabilities, **autism**, hearing loss and the effects of Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS), Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS), and moderate to severe brain injuries. Each child's team is drawn from program staff and encourages a holistic view of the child's physical, intellectual, social, spiritual and cultural uniqueness, while reviewing the factors which may influence his or her development."

The question many parents of children with autism have is... "where does the *behaviour* part come in?"

Autism Education Society Celebrity Golf Tournament

The Autism Education Society (AES) is a nonprofit, charitable organization established in 1997. The goal of A.E.S. is to establish an academic "Chair" at the University of British Columbia to teach Lovaas-style behavioural treatment and thereby develop a source of "home grown" BC professionals (Therapists and Behavioral Consultants).

It is time once again for the 2nd annual autism education society celebrity golf invitational the year. We need your help!

Proceeds from this event will help us to reach our \$1 million goal to establish a permanent academic program at UBC to train Canadian based consultants and autism treatment professionals, as well as fund such programs as this year's summer session at UBC with Dr. Tristram Smith.

To reach this goal we would like to DOUBLE the amount of players from last year.

This is where all of our families can help. Many people in your community play golf and would be interested in playing with a celebrity. You can approach doctors, dentists, church organizations, clubs, accountants, lawyers, schools, employers and bank managers. They can buy a foursome or a single players pass. All donations are tax deductible.

- Where: Westwood Plateau Golf & Country Club, Coquitlam, B.C.
- When: Monday, July 27, 1998
- Price: \$500.00 per participating player \$3000.00 per hole sponsor/participating foursome

Does Sunny Hill provide Lovaas behavioural autism treatment on an inpatient or outreach basis? Unfortunately, the answer is "no". So what behavioural treatment programs DO they offer? Again, the answer is NONE.

Aside from diagnosis and "advice", what meaningful work does Sunny Hill DO for children with autism with their \$11,920,435 a year budget from the Ministry of Health?

Well... they spend a portion on **16** professionals who work in the *Development and Behaviour Program - 6 of whom are doctors*. With these considerable resources, young children with autism must *still* wait upwards of 1 1/2 years for evaluation and diagnosis -- a terrible waste of precious brain development in a young child. When parents finally get a diagnosis, **no autism treatment is provided**. Parents and their children are on their own in the vitally important work of setting up and funding an effective treatment program. "*The Development and Behaviour Program*"... nice name, but where is the beef?

The Sunny Hill bottleneck presents a strong argument for decentralized autism diagnosis and a review of Ministry of Health special needs priorities and resource allocation.

Note: For anyone who would like to purchase signage at T-Box, price is \$1000.00.

Included per player:

- 1 golf package
- 1 celebrity to accompany foursome
- 1 player invitation for Sunday pairings party and live auction
- 4 player invitations to Monday afternoon BBQ
- Signage at Tie Box

We have brochures and information on hand if anyone wants them. You can just call me with their names and addresses and I will be happy to send them out.

We know that some of us will get a foursome and some of us will not. But every connection and brochure that is sent out increases the awareness of AES - and that in itself is a success for us all.

I want to personally thank all of you in advance for all your efforts. Remember, together we can move mountains to help our kids.

Sarina Kier Ph.: 264-8487 Fx.: 264-8435





The FEAT BC Internet Discussion Group is a web based chat board. FEAT BC members can post messages to the discussion board from any web capable computer, anywhere in BC... and anywhere in the world. It's a great way to share information and chat with other FEAT BC members.

Give us your name and email address and we will send posted messages to your email box automatically. It's a easy way to keep up to date with what is happening.

Send your request to:
• featbc@biogate.com

FEAT BC will set you up in 24 hours.

Parent Group Meetings

The FEAT BC Parent Discussion group meets on the third Wednesday of each month.

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: St. Francis in the Wood - 4773, S.

Piccadilly, W. Vancouver. A location map can be downloaded at:

<http://digital-web.net/FEATbc/map.html>

The topic of the last meeting was "Educating the Educators".

Next FEAT BC Discussion Group Meeting: May 20th, 1998*

Topic: School Integration

Place: St. Francis in the Wood

Meeting: June 17th, 1998*

Topic: Sharing of Program Ideas, Materials and Teaching Aids

Place: St. Francis in the Wood

Minutes of past meetings are available. Please call Judy Anderson (604)986-1975.

Vancouver Island FEAT Chapter

Congratulations to Island FEAT members for organizing the new Island Chapter of FEAT BC.

The Island Chapter of FEAT BC is working to provide:

- therapy materials
- intellectual and moral support to anyone interested in ABA therapy.

The FEAT BC Island Chapter has:

- monthly meetings,
- therapists' networking meetings
- a lending library of toys, ABA literature, and information on related issues,

If you know of someone moving to the island who is doing or looking into Lovaas ABA therapy, please let us know or refer our names and phone numbers.

Paulette Biggar: Ph (250) 478-5264

Franca Pastro: Ph (250) 598-9701

e-mail: franca@pacificcoast.net

New UBC Courses with a Behavioural Focus:

Summer:

EPSE 390A: Classroom Management
Instructor: Stan Auerbach, M.A.
when: July 6th - 24th, M-F, 10:30am-1:00pm

EPSE 390B: Behaviour Analysis and Intervention Planning
Instructor: Pat Mirenda, Ph.D.
when: July 27th - August 14th, 8:00-10:30am

EPSE 390D: Early Intervention for Children with Autism
Instructor: Tristan Smith, Ph.D. Visiting Professor

Upcoming:

EPSE 432: Classroom Behavior Management

EPSE 433: Behaviour Analysis and Intervention Planning

EPSE 436: Survey of Behavior Disorders in Children

EPSE 513: Seminar in Developmental Disabilities (graduate students only)

EPSE 515A: Seminar in Behaviour Disorders (applied behaviour analysis focus; graduate students only)

EPSE 568: Seminar in Autism (graduate students only). Offered January, 2000.

The above list is for information only. Inclusion here does not imply endorsement by FEAT BC.

New Study Supports Lovaas

A new study from U.C.L.A. has reported success using intensive behavioural modification techniques with very young, severely impaired, autistic children. Though no child had spoken in words at intake, 91% in the experimental group did so in the follow-up

evaluation compared to 20% in the comparison group. There was also a near 30% improvement of I.Q. in the experimental group, as compared to an 11% decrease in mean I.Q. of the comparison group.

Smith, Tristram, Svein Eikeseth et. al. "Intensive behavioral treatment for preschoolers with severe mental retardation and pervasive developmental disorder." *American Journal on Mental Retardation*. Vol. 102, No. 3, 1997, pp. 238-249.

Supported Child Care

Supported Child Care (SCC) is now in place in many regions of the province. I had a meeting with the new coordinator for SCC on the North Shore recently.

The purpose of the meeting was to review the "new guidelines." The guidelines try to establish what sort and how much "extra support" a child should receive in a day care or preschool setting. Background information for the child includes such questions as; "has the child seen an infant development worker, speech therapist, Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist, behavioural consultant, social worker. No where does it ask if a physician has been the child or if there is a diagnosis. Once again demonstrating that support is determined and everything but medical necessity.

A medical model is the only logical way to determine the type of intervention needed for any special needs child. Therefore, it is essential that parents either get a diagnosis or are in the diagnostic process prior to applying for supported child care.

I would urge you all to ask a lot of questions - particularly how the "in-home day care" is effected by SCC. Many of us are receiving some funding via "in-home day care." As of this writing the supported child care people didn't know how or if it would be affected.

If you have any questions on concerns, please call Jean Lewis at: 604-925-4401.

Another Happy FEAT Kid!



"When men and women of Government are aware that effective autism treatment exists for a child, yet do not do all possible to provide such treatment, they commit a crime of omission -- the loss of a child. History and God will not judge kindly the leaders and bureaucrats of the day that perpetrate this act against children." FEAT BC, 1998

The FEAT BC Classified

Want to list in the FEAT BC Classified? Call Judy at 604-986-1975

New Toilet Training Device

A new toilet training sensory device put out by Palco-Lab called "WET STOP" is now available. Call for more information: Palco-Lab: 1-800-346-4488.

Greeting Cards Designed by Children with Autism

These beautiful cards can be bought in sets of 12 for \$20.00. All proceeds support the important work of FEAT of BC

Therapist List

Michelle Weis has compiled a list of therapists looking for work. She is providing this service to parents only. Please remember, even though names of eager therapists are given out to you, every parent hiring a new therapist to their team MUST check for references to their own satisfaction. FEAT of BC is acting as a clearinghouse only and does not endorse any of the individuals suggested to you. Please check all references carefully before employing anyone in your home-based ABA program. Contact Michelle at: 604-882-9196.

ABA Software Designed by FEAT Dad

I have built an application using Microsoft Access 2.0 which does the following:

1. Holds therapist info (name address etc)
2. Holds your drills, including target lists
3. Holds data recording info (date mastered, generalized etc)
4. Holds hours of work for therapists
5. Produces drill sheets, listing SD, all targets and dates
6. Produces pay cheque stubs
7. Produces drill checklist
8. Produces graphs over time of number of targets introduced, average days to master and average number of targets mastered

It follows the PACE model very closely. If anybody is interested in this, you can have a copy for free. You need to have a license for MS Access 2.0 to use it. You should also be somewhat familiar with MS Access. Send me an email privately, if you are interested. I will have a copy ready for release in the next couple of weeks.

Rob gumnut@istar.ca

<http://home.istar.ca/~gumnut/autism.shtml>

Stanford Autism Genetics Program Recruiting Families

The Stanford University Genetics program studies the possible genetic causes of Autism. The Stanford research project pursuing the genetic causes of autism is the longest running of all major universities and is the furthest along. They are opening the study to families in British Columbia at the request of FEAT of BC. Stanford researchers will travel to B.C. and visit the family in the home. A series of developmental and diagnostic tests will be conducted by experts in the field. All results will be shared with families. Participation is free of charge. The research project is open to families with 2 or more autistic children.

Families interested in this important opportunity, please contact FEAT of BC or Dr. Donna Spiker at the Stanford Medical Centre (650)723-7809 or e-mail Dr. Spiker at ms.dks@forsythe.stanford.edu

ABA Lending Library and Store

Michelle has also offered to act as a "storing place" for materials related to ABA programs being bought and sold by any parents. If you need anything or have anything to sell related to ABA programs, or any other generally needed items parents would be interested in, please call Michelle at 604-882-9196. Michelle is working to establish a FEAT BC "Lending Library" for parents setting up ABA programs. If you have any materials you no longer need, please contact Michelle for drop off or pick up.

Discussion/Support Group

If you would like to be paired up with another A.B.A. family in your area with similar age child please contact Jean Lewis (604)925-4401

Please use this section to advertise for things that are needed or are available for sale (or free). For example, ads for specific A.B.A. therapy materials, therapists, & baby-sitters are welcome.