

CAROL'S KIDS NEWS

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SUMMER PROGRAMS ANNOUNCEMENT

Applied Behavioral Concepts, Inc., in collaboration with Premier Preschools, is proud to offer summer camp options to children who are not currently enrolled in programs.

A full day program is offered to children six- to twelve-years old, while our younger students are eligible for half day programs which can be extended to a full day to meet family needs.

Each week has a different theme so there is no repetition from June to July. Children enrolled for both months will not be bored by relearning lessons from the previous month, Applied Behavioral Concepts has contacted several local service providers and is offering a

program that is innovative in the field. "Recent conference presentations have opened some new ideas for us," said Carol Vancil, owner of Applied Behavioral Concepts. "We have collaborated with others to develop a program that is instructional, but fun. Children should have fun during the summer months. The demand for this kind of camp has families from other parts of Alabama and Tennessee moving here for the summer to attend our camp!"

Utilizing talented professionals to instruct and guide the program, Applied Behavioral Concepts will provide summer camps at both locations focusing on each age group with very low student: teacher ratio (2:1) and activi-

ties appropriate for the age. The younger children ages two- to five-years old will attend summer camp at the Premier Preschool in Huntsville, while the older children, ages six- to twelve-years old will be attending camp at the Premier Preschools on Slaughter Road in Madison.

To find out more about our summer camp, information is available on our website. Registration forms may be printed and filled out and mailed or delivered to either Premier location. Demand for a summer program began in January and spaces are limited. Placement will be on a first come first serve basis using receipt of completed registration or by postmark.

APPLIED BEHAVIORAL CONCEPTS, INC. OFFERS:

INCLUSION

INCIDENTAL TEACHING

DISCRETE TRIALS

1:1 OR 2:1 STUDENT TEACHER RATIO

BEHAVIOR STRATEGIES

SCHOOL OBSERVATIONS

TRAINING FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

THOROUGH EVALUATIONS

EXPANDED AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Applied Behavioral Concepts has recently begun after-school programs for school age children. We began offering after school hours at the Premier Preschool on Slaughter Road in Madison, and another at the Mt. Carmel Elementary

School.

Each program is designed to meet specific goals and are unique to the child. Applied Behavioral Concepts is very fortunate to have highly educated therapists committed to the advance-

ment of children in our care. They are willing to put in the hours necessary to insure success and have done a fabulous job collaborating with educational sources to meet family goals.

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST THERAPISTS

Applied Behavioral Concepts, Inc. has welcomed four new therapists to our team. We know you will be seeing them around and are curious to know more about them. Madison Brooks, Juliet Masters, Susan Banks and Rob Blackwell, are students at the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

Mrs. Suzanne Roten has recruited, trained, and is in the process of fulfilling the DHR requirements of checking the backgrounds of all of our new therapists. "All of our therapists meet the requirements, including Child Abuse and Neglect (CAN) and criminal history checks, that are required for all daycare employees", says Suzanne. "We don't take any chances with our kids."

While Applied Behavioral Concepts, has never had any issues with abuse, the company is growing and so is the staff. This is one expense Applied Be-

havioral Concepts feels is worthwhile to offer our clients as well as the clients of the Premier Preschools. "Peace of mind is priceless. We all sleep better knowing for certain our therapists are above reproach," said Carol Vancil, owner of Applied Behavioral Concepts.

In addition to background checks and references, therapists are instructed in the techniques of applied behavior analysis (ABA) such as, shaping behavior, positive and negative reinforcement and discrete trial instruction. New hires learn how to collect and maintain the data, how to teach incidentally and how to facilitate social skills on the playground. New therapists participate in game days which are held in the classrooms with typical peer interaction. As mundane as it is, each new hire also reads the Daycare Standards Manual (required by DHR) the Applied Behavioral Concepts, policies and procedures

and employee manual. "Many hours initially are observing and followed by video taped sessions which are reviewed," says Mrs. Roten, "but it is the actual hands on instruction that lets us know how well a therapist interacts with a child that counts. When we schedule therapists to work with a child, we are confident that they have all the skills to be effective and successful in using the teaching strategies."

Stop in and meet Madison, Juliet, Susan and Rob! We will be spotlighting them in future issues along with the therapists you have all come to know and trust your children to each day!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Premier Training Events

April 16: Carol Vancil, Applied Behavioral Concepts

May 14: Adult Child Interaction; Positive Discipline and Guidance

Teacher Training

April 12: Kim Cantrell, Applied Behavioral Concepts, Basic Principles of Behavior Modification and Use

AUTISM WALK SET FOR APRIL 21, 2007 AT THE CHAPMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL. SEE SUZANNE OR JEFF TO MAKE A DONATION OR TO SIGN UP AND WALK WITH US!

Alabama Association of Licensed Early Care and Education

June 14: Mobile, Alabama

Autism Society

July 11: Scottsdale Arizona

Sensory Conference

May 18: Birmingham, presenter Carol Kranowitz, author of the *Out of Sync Child*.

Fundraiser

August 13: Countrywide Golf Tournament will be held at the Ledges, to benefit the Autism Resource Foundation, a non-profit organization. Contact Jeff at 714-8464 to participate or sign up your team.

If you know of up coming conferences or events please let us know and we will put it in our next newsletter.

SPOTLIGHT ON SUZANNE ROTEN

You may have noticed a change in the air. Suzanne and her husband Andy are expecting their first child in November! We are very excited for Suzanne and Andy! Suzanne has had no trouble (so far) with morning sickness, but has been taking naps mid-day! Her first ultrasound is scheduled for April 18th. Suzanne has been maternity shopping and she and Andy have begun to look at names for the baby. "The names we are considering for a girl are Gwendolyn or Opal. Boy

names we are talking about are Yorick or Lewis." says Suzanne. "We are very excited and our family is ecstatic, they can hardly contain themselves."

Suzanne obtained her Bachelors degree in Psychology and English from UAH. Among her academic achievements are awards from the Scientific Undergraduate Psychological Research Convention, SE Psychological Society Convention and Sigma Xi Regional Research Convention. She is a member of

Sigma Xi (Science), Sigma Tau Delta (English) and Psi Chi (Psychology) honor societies. She has experience with the America Reads program reaching high risk children. She has recently returned from Thailand where she taught English, including teaching at the Royal Palace School. She has been accepted into the Masters program at St. Cloud State University to begin working on the course requirements to become a BCBA.