

## Building Bridges

A place for fun, friendship, and development through Applied Behavior Analysis Services

+

Vol 1. Spring 2023



### TABLE OF CONTENTS

About the program	Page 3
Preparing for kinder	Page 4
Individualized goals	Page 5
Schedules & Routines	Page 6
DTT, NET & Circle Time	Page 7
Parent Corner	Page 8





# ABOUT

### Our Mission:

Providing young children with autism the opportunity for individualized 1:1 support through ABA therapy in a group setting to prepare them for kindergarten. We will work to develop learners into the best versions of themselves, and ultimately develop the skills they need to approach kindergarten with confidence and pride.





- The Early Learner (EL) program is designed for children age 3-6 years old with approval for ABA services.
- Each leaner has an RBT assigned to them throughout the day.

  Often a learner has at least two different therapists per day.
- The program is designed to replace preschool and teach key kinder-readiness skills.
- Learners attend Monday through Friday for an average 30 hours a week.

#### BUILDING BLOCKS ROOM

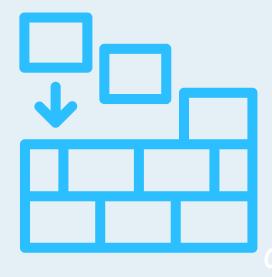
- Learning through peers
- · Increased time at group circles
- Increased independence with transitions & schedule use
- Multi-step crafts and fine motor activities
- Sharing with peers and expanded learning through imaginative play
- Movement through music and group games
- Building complexity of communication

### FOUNDATIONS ROOM

- Transitioning
- Following a schedule
- Following simple directions
- Playing with toys according to their function
- Introduction to group circle time
- Developing communication & understanding contingencies
- Introduction to pre-craft fine motor skills: snipping, gluing, coloring, dot markers
- Sharing spaces with peers

### PREPARING FOR KINDERGARTEN

The EL program at both the Charlotte and Winston-Salem centers are broken into two different rooms based on targets that fit the individual learner. Both rooms utilize visual schedules and include the following as part of each day: DTT, NET, sensory room, gym time, lunch & snack, and at least two group circle times.



### INDIVIDUALIZED GOALS • • • •

Each learner's BCBA works with families to develop meaningful, individualized goals. Data is collected daily by the learner's RBT across all areas of the program. Some common areas for goals include:

- Manding (Requests): Asking for help, requesting materials, manding to peers
- Listener Responding: Following directions, responding to name
- Tolerance: Sitting in an assigned place, waiting for preferred items
- Social Skills: Taking turns, greetings, peer interactions
- · Daily Living Skills: Hand washing, brushing teeth, toilet training
- DTT Skills: Matching, Sorting, Labeling, Imitation



Leaners work on play goals throughout their day using a variety of toys and settings.

### SCHEDULES & ROUTINES



### ROUTINES

Teeth brushing is just one of the daily routines practiced in the EL program.

### PICTURE SCHEDULES

Examples of picture schedules for learners to follow along with.



A highly structured environment and predictable routines help Early Learners be successful. All EL rooms are highly structured, utilize individual picture schedules based on the learners' programming, and maximize attention and motivation through maintaining short amounts of time to keep the learners engaged. Daily routines may include teeth brushing, hand washing, and mealtime routines such as getting out their lunchbox, opening lunchbox, and throwing away trash.

### DISCRETE TRIAL TRAINING

DTT is a structured ABA technique that breaks down skills into smaller, "discrete" components. DTT has been shown to have positive effects on children's academic, cognitive, communication/language, social, and behavioral skills. DTT can also be used to teach attending, imitation, and play skills.

DTT is typically run 3-4 times per day depending on the learner. DTT takes place at a table and is more structured than NET.

### NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

NET • • • •

DTT

Sometimes referred to as naturalistic teaching, NET is an evidence-based teaching method in which learning takes place in an individual's natural settings. Through NET, therapists implement teaching opportunities in context of the child's regular, preferred activities.

The EL Program utilizes NET during designated times and is also integrated throughout all aspects of the day. NET differs from DTT in that it is less structured, child-led, and ultimately should look as close to natural play as possible.

### PARENT CORNER





CLT Sensory
Friendly Activities



Winston-Salem
Spray Grounds (FREE)





Sensory Friendly
Movies



Sensory Friendly
Play Qubein
Children's Museum



Sensory Friendly

Marbles Museum (Raleigh)



Winston-Salem
Movies in the Park
(FREE)



Winston-Salem
Splash Pads (FREE)



\*This list is informational in nature and ABtA is not affiliated with these activities.\*