



activities that go on in their everyday life (i.e., cooking, doctor, teacher, etc.). Reenactment of these activities helps children to make sense of their world and all that is going on around them.

Let's Talk Blog Posts



Please visit the Let's Talk website to view our most recent blog posts! Our Stonehill intern, Grace LeBlanc, has written some new posts documenting our pre-school social groups. There are details about the books, pretend play activities, and materials used in each of our groups. These groups encourage problem solving, social interactions, language, and of course pretend play skills! If you are interested in signing up for these groups, please contact Amy Blanchette by calling the office (508)-230-8181, or emailing her at ablanchette@gmail.com.

Ask a Clinician



Question: What is the importance of pretend play skills in early child development?

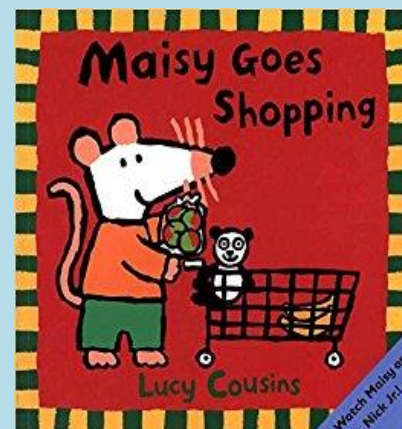
Answer: Children learn a plethora of skills early on when they engage in pretend play. It targets cognitive, social/pragmatic, and language skills, just to name a few!

Through pretend play, children learn about their interests and abilities. They do so by observing

Pretend play requires the child to use his/her language to problem solve, role play/perspective take, and express ideas and knowledge. They have to negotiate, turn take, and self-regulate when playing/working with other children. In addition, children acquire so much language through play! They learn new vocabulary as well as appropriate grammar and syntax through observation and exploration with their peers.

It is vital that parents, teachers, caregivers, and anyone else who the child interacts with on a daily basis encourage pretend play. It is imperative for the development of all these skills!

Book of the Month



Maisy Goes Shopping by Lucy Cousins. In this book, children go on a grocery shopping trip with Maisy and her friends to fill their refrigerator! This book is great for teaching new vocabulary, categorization, associations, and pretend play schemes! This book was used for the pretend play social group, and after reading the book we went on our very own shopping trip! The children in the group worked together to gather all the items on the shopping list, sort all of the items away, and make an awesome lunch!

UPCOMING EVENTS

April is autism awareness month! Show your support by wearing blue on April 1st (or here on Monday April 2nd)

Light It Up Blue for Autism:

What: Autism Awareness & Acceptance Celebration hosted by UMass Medical School, Memorial HealthCare, and HMEA's Autism Resource Central. Hear experts update you with the welcoming remarks, and visit local resources and vendors at the activity fair, featuring interactive activities, games & music for all ages. Then everyone will gather to Light Up the Albert Sherman Center CUBE Blue.

When: Monday, April 2, 2018, 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Where: UMass Medical School, Albert Sherman Center 55 Lake Avenue North, Worcester



Autism Community Resources Event

What: The Autism Spectrum Center at Boston Children's Hospital. Identifying and accessing the best resources for your child with ASD can be a challenging and overwhelming process. Hear from a Resource Panel of experts about community-based resources from agencies across the state. The public is welcome to attend.

When: April 4th, 2018 6-8pm

Where: Boston Children's Hospital 320 Longwood Avenue, Folkman Auditorium, Enders Building Boston, MA 02115

Wings for Autism®

What: Free. A program specifically designed to support families of children with autism, creating a travel test run to help ease the stress of airline travel. By getting comfortable with the airport and flight experience without leaving the airport, parents and their children with special needs can gain the familiarity and confidence they need to take future trips. Please contact wingsforautism@charlesrivercenter.org or 781-972-1000 for more information

When: Terminal E, 9:30 am on Saturday, April 7th.



Autism Awareness and Acceptance Day:

What: The annual "Autism Spectrum Awareness and Acceptance Day" at the Boston State House invites the community to hear speakers, legislators, self-advocates and more. In addition, attendees are encouraged to visit their legislators to advocate for support of legislation and funding for autism-related services.

When: Thursday April 12th 9:30am-12pm

Where: Massachusetts State House 24 Beacon St. Boston, MA

Touch-a-Truck for Autism Awareness Month:

What: A free event to honor Autism Awareness Month and bring the entire family. Explore and touch all types of vehicles such as a fire trucks, police cars, ambulances, and tow trucks. There will be also food and other activities.

When: Sunday April 15th 11am-1pm

Where: Recreational Education Center, 83 Pine Street, Entrance B, Peabody, MA 01960

Autism Speaks at Fenway Park

What: Join us as we show our support for Autism Speaks and the valuable work they do for all with autism spectrum disorders. A portion of the proceeds from each ticket purchased for the Red Sox vs Rays game will be donated to Autism Speaks! Please visit the ticketing website to purchase

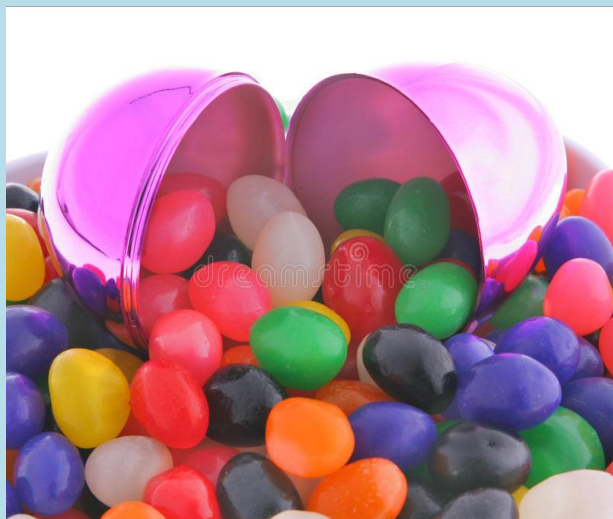
When: Sunday April 15th 11am-1pm

Where: Fenway Park

The annual Walk for Apraxia 2018 is now open for registration!! Please visit Let's Talk's Facebook page to find the link to our sign-up page! Early bird registration ends May 27th – use code 'early bird.'



EASTER EGG CHALLENGE



Another holiday, another contest! There will be a basket of Easter eggs filled with jelly beans displayed in the waiting room. Each child is allowed one guess (siblings included). The child who correctly guesses the amount of jelly beans in the eggs, or comes closest to that number without going over, will win! The winner will take home the basket, as well as a gift card!

Let the guessing begin!

Thank you for reading our Let's Talk Newsletter! We appreciate your feedback about additional events, resources, advice, and information you may have. In addition, we welcome recommendations about the content of the newsletter.

Please email: nscalera@ltspeech.com with suggestions/comments/concerns.



Chocolates for a good cause!

Let's Talk is selling Hilliard's Chocolate candy bars to fundraise for this year's Boston Walk for Children with Apraxia of Speech! There are 5 flavors: milk chocolate crispy, pure rich milk chocolate, milk chocolate with caramel, milk chocolate with peanut butter, and pure rich dark chocolate. Each candy bar is \$2.00 and all proceeds go to this amazing cause! Ask Marcia, Brenda, or Hannah at the desk if you'd like to purchase any chocolates!

****Reminders****

We are **OPEN** with normal hours on the following holidays:

- 4/1/18: Easter Monday
- We are open for ALL SPRING BREAKS. Please let your clinician know if you need to take time off!

Let's Talk Speech and Language Therapy Services LLC.

802 Washington St
South Easton, MA 02375

Phone: (508)-230-8181

Website: www.ltspeech.com

