



ASPIRE SPEECH & LEARNING CENTER

Newsletter

December 2019

Announcements

Aspire's office closed December 24th after noon, December 25th, and January 1st. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Social Communication Skills

Social skills are the tools that enable people to communicate, learn, ask for help, get needs met in appropriate ways, get along with others, make friends, develop healthy relationships, protect themselves, and in general, be able to interact with others harmoniously.

Social communication is the use of language in social contexts. It encompasses social interaction, social cognition, pragmatics, and language processing. Social communication skills include the ability to vary speech style, take the perspective of others, understand and appropriately use the rules for verbal and nonverbal communication, and use the structural aspects of language (e.g., vocabulary, syntax, and phonology) to accomplish these goals. Social communication skills are needed for language expression and comprehension in both spoken and written modalities. (The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, ASHA)

Social communication includes three major skills:

Using language for different reasons, such as:

- Greeting. Saying "hello" or "goodbye"
- Informing. "I'm going to get a cookie."
- Requesting. "I want a cookie, please."

Changing language for the listener or situation, such as:

- Talking differently to a baby than to an adult
- Giving more information to someone who does not know the topic
- Knowing to skip some details when someone already knows the topic
- Talking differently in a classroom than on a playground

Following rules for conversations, such as:

- Taking turns when you talk
- Staying on topic
- Knowing how close to stand to someone when talking
- Using gestures, facial expressions, eye contact, and body language

Social Communication Diagram



-Written by Shannon Johnson, Speech-Language Pathologist

Staff Spotlight



Shannon Johnson, M.A., CCC-SLP
Speech-Language Pathologist

Shannon Johnson, M.A., CCC-SLP graduated with distinction from California State University, Fresno earning her Bachelor of Arts degree and her Master of Arts degree in Communicative Sciences and Disorders. She is a member of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and has been awarded the Certificate of Clinical Competence.

She is licensed by the Speech-Language Pathology, Audiology Board of California, and has earned the ACE Award from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Shannon has over 17 years of experience providing diagnostic and therapeutic services for children, adolescents, and adults with a wide variety of diagnoses.



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