



BRIDGING THE GAP

December, 2009

Regional and Statewide Services for Students with Orthopedic Impairments • RSOI

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Contact Us

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TIES 2010 Call for Presenters

Is this your year to present at the TIES *Therapy in Educational Settings* Conference? TIES 2010 is scheduled for April 19 & 20, 2010, at the Valley River Inn, in Eugene. Breakout Presenter Proposal forms for the conference may be linked from this email. Presenters are invited to propose 1- to 1-1/2 hour breakout presentations, geared for either new therapists, general interest, or experienced therapists working in educational practice, with children from birth through high school transition age. Presenters receive one free admission to the conference per session. This year's TIES Conference will feature Yvonne Swinth, PhD., OTR/L, presenting a day-long session titled, "Evidence-Based Strategies for Managing the Challenges of Educational Practice". Dr. Swinth is an Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy at the University of Puget Sound, and works as a school-based OT in the University Place School District in Washington State. She is published in numerous books and journals, is a past chairperson of the AOTA School Systems Special Interest Section, and is AOTA representative on the National IDEA Resource Cadre of the federally funded IDEA Partnership Projects, U.S. Department of Education. See the Presenter Proposal form for more information at http://www.rsoi.org/Documents/TIES_Presenter_Applic_2010.pdf

Seminar for Feeding Teams 2009

150 OT's, PT's, SLP's, special education teachers, and others attended the 12th annual Seminar for Feeding Teams in Wilsonville November 30 and December 1.

- Power Point handouts for both keynote presenter Keith Williams, Ph.D., Feeding Program Director at the Pennsylvania State Hershey Medical Center, and for Nancy Sinden, M.S., CCC-SLP, CDRC, Portland, may be accessed on our website <http://www.rsoi.org/Pages/FeedingResources.aspx>
- Updated contact information for education-based feeding teams and for hospital-based teams in Oregon are also available on the Feeding Resources web page.

See below for highlights from Nancy Sinden's presentation on the role of the SLP on the education-based feeding team. Mark your calendar for next year's Seminar for Feeding Teams dates: Dec. 6 & 7, 2010!

Coming Events

Linking Play to Function: Using NDT and Sensory Integration Strategies to Facilitate Functional Skills Through Play

Presenter: Lezlie Adler

March 5-6 2010

Portland, OR. \$425

<http://www.educationresourcesinc.com>

Yoga for the Child with Developmental Challenges

Anne Buckley-Reen

February 5-6, 2010

Renton, WA. \$425.

<http://www.educationresourcesinc.com>

TIES CONFERENCE: Therapy in Educational Settings

April 19 & 20, 2010

Valley River Inn, Eugene

**KEYNOTE: "Evidence-Based
Strategies for Managing the
Challenges of Practice in
Educational Settings"**

Yvonne Swinth, PhD,

OTR/L, FAOTA. Presentation

Proposal applications available

December, 2009. Registration

materials available after Feb. 1,

2010. Both **Presenter** and

Vendor Exhibit Space

Applications are

available on the RSOI Website

under the TIES Conference link.

<http://www.rsoi.org/Pages/TIES>

[Conference.aspx](http://www.rsoi.org/Pages/TIES)

Role of the SLP on the Feeding Team in Addressing Feeding Problems

In her presentation at the 2009 Seminar for Feeding Teams, Nancy Sinden, M.S., CCC-SLP, CDRC, shared some compelling research findings on Dysphagia, the medical term for feeding and swallowing problems. Nancy cited research which finds that 80% of children with developmental disabilities have Dysphagia, a high risk disorder which can make a child unsafe when eating at school. Among children with Cerebral Palsy, 85-90% have Dysphagia, putting them at risk for choking or aspiration pneumonia. In addition, one study found that 90% of children with disabilities have some type of nutritional problem (Blackman, 1990). Nancy explained that inadequate nourishment leads to lethargy, decreased energy or stamina, and poor attention span (Ault et al, 1994).

For students on IEP's who have Dysphagia, related services may be required to support their ability to access and benefit from their special education program. In a position paper posted on their website, the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA) has outlined guidelines for the role of the SLP. The guidelines are founded upon the premise that students must be safe while eating at school. They go on to state that insuring the safety of a student with Dysphagia may involve providing appropriate personnel, food, and procedures to minimize risks for choking and aspiration (entry of food or liquids in the airway). Students must be adequately nourished and hydrated so that they can attend to and fully access the school curriculum. Students must also be healthy (e.g., free from aspiration pneumonia or other illnesses related to malnutrition or dehydration) in order to attend school and attend to instruction. Finally, students must develop skills for eating efficiently during meals and snack times at school so that they can complete these activities with their peers safely and in a timely manner. (ASHA, <http://www.asha.org/docs/html/GL2007-00276.html>)

The child's medical team is a partner to the school team. Communication between medical and educational settings is vital to providing for the child's health needs at school. Families should be encouraged to inform the school team when their child has a medical appointment, and asked to sign a release of information allowing the clinic to share information with the school team and vice-versa. For a copy of CDRC's Release of Information form in English and Spanish, go to <http://www.rsoi.org/Pages/FeedingResources.aspx>. (from Nancy Sinden, MS, SLP, OHSU-CDRC. Handout posted at <http://www.rsoi.org/Pages/FeedingResources.aspx>)

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New in the RSOI Library: Wii Fit System

“Wii-Hab” under the direction of a therapist can be fun and motivating while promoting social skills! Thanks to the generosity of a friend of OTAP, the Wii Fit is now available for loan from the RSOI Loan Library. Wii Fit combines fitness with fun as players work towards personal balance, coordination and fitness goals. In 40+ video games, players block soccer balls, swivel hips to twirl hula-hoops, practice yoga poses, shift weight to snow board down a slalom course, and much more. Players can set goals, check daily progress, and even enter time for exercise done outside of Wii Fit. Wii Fit calibrates the user’s fitness by factoring BMI reading, testing the user’s center of gravity and conducting quick balance tests. Stand-by assistance or use of a walker or high-backed chair is recommended for students having difficulties with balance when standing on the balance board. Wii Health and Safety Precautions warn against use of the Wii by people with a history of seizures. The Wii Fit comes with the Wii Console and Balance Board. To check out the Wii Fit, print a loan agreement form from the website at www.rsoi.org and request Item # 574.