

FACILITATED/INTEGRATED PLAYGROUP

FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER

Tuesdays, 9:30-10:45 am (ages 3-4)

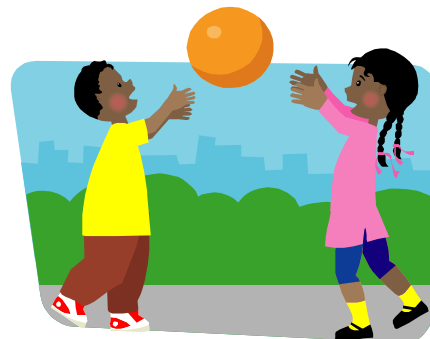
Meeting dates: Dec. 1, 8, 15, Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26, Feb. 2, 9, 23

or

Wednesdays, 2:00 - 3:15 pm or 3:45 - 5:00 pm (ages 5-7)

Meeting dates: Dec. 2, 9, 16, Jan. 6, 13, 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10, 24

Open to children ages 3 to 7 years old.



Instructors: AnaMaria Guevara, Licensed Clinical Social Worker
Leina Ramos, Licensed Clinical Social Worker

The CDM now offers a group designed for young children with high-functioning Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and PDD. Children with ASD have difficulties in the areas of communication, socialization and imagination and creativity. This early-intervention playgroup will address those areas by providing:

- Facilitated play that is designed to increase creativity, flexibility in thinking and language skills.
- Peer interaction opportunities, including initiating and maintaining conversations, answering questions, turn-taking.
- Increased awareness and understanding of verbal and non-verbal communication among playmates.

The playgroup will be held once a week for ten sessions. It will be a fun-filled, animal-themed or project-based developmentally appropriate group with play-based activities. Common social activities such as going to a restaurant, theme park, and birthday parties are incorporated into the pretend play each week in order to allow children to develop concepts of the "expected behaviors" at these events and to practice for future success. The hour long playgroup will include structured/unstructured and facilitated playtime, art opportunities, and snack time. Additionally, parent education will be provided, with a weekly consultation for the last 15 minutes of each group and weekly written summaries of your child's progress.

The group is held at Center for Developing Minds. Course fee is \$1000 for the ten sessions. The groups are facilitated by both AnaMaria Guevara, LCSW, and Leina Ramos, LCSW. The group includes typical peer players with a maximum of 3:1 adult to child ratio. Additionally, each prospective group member and their parent will attend a 30-minute screening appointment, in order to ensure group compatibility and provide an opportunity for parents to ask questions regarding the group. The fee for this screening is \$30.



To register for this program, please contact the Center for Developing Minds at 408.358.1853
www.devmonds.com