TEACHING LANGUAGE AND APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES, INCLUDING AUTISM: An Expanded Introduction to the ABA-Verbal Behavior Approach with New and Updated Information

Patrick McGreevy, Ph.D., BCBA
Board Certified Behavior Analyst

October 12th Meet and Greet  6:30-9:00 pm
October 13th  9:00-4:00 pm
Regent University
Virginia Beach, Va

This workshop will provide participants with information on how to use the ABA-Verbal Behavior approach to teach beginning communication and language skills to individuals with developmental disabilities, including autism. Designed for teachers, school administrations, speech-language pathologists, behavior specialists, behavior analysts, psychologist, para-professionals, social workers, behavior trainers and parents, this workshop will focus on specific teaching procedures.

ABA-Verbal Behavior

The ABA-Verbal Behavior approach is based on B.F. Skinner's analysis of verbal behavior, along with the research and writing of Jack Michael and many other behavior analysts. This approach, often referred to as the Sundberg-Partington approach, includes a curriculum, a curriculum-based assessment instrument, and specific teaching procedures developed by Mark Sundberg Ph.D. BCBA and Jim Partington Ph.D. BCBA, and a set of additional teaching procedures suggested by Patrick McGreevy, Ph.D. BCBA and Vince Carbone, Ed.D, BCBA.

In contrast to cognitive and other ABA-based models, this approach includes and emphasizes: (1) beginning language instruction by building a behavioral relationship with the learner using noncontingent reinforcement and gradually beginning the teaching of “mands” [rather than beginning with the teaching of compliance], (2) teaching expressive language [rather than teaching receptive language and waiting for expressive language to develop], (3) intensive and natural environment teaching, (4) fast-paced intensive teaching which includes interspersed [rather than repetitive] trials, varied cues, errorless teaching, and teaching to fluency [rather than 80-100% correct], and (5) probe [rather than trial-by-trial] data. These procedures often result in language that is spontaneous, natural [rather than scripted], fluent, and generalized. This approach, with these procedures, often results in children and adults who spontaneously request and describe specific items and events, work cooperatively and enthusiastically, and initiate and participate in conversations, which include a variety of questions and answers.
Our Presenter:

Dr. McGreevy received his B.S. and M.A. degrees from the University of Iowa and his Ph.D. degree in Education from Kansas University, where he was a student of Ogden R. Lindsley, who, in turn, was a student of B.F. Skinner. He was a special education teacher for eight years and served on the faculties of the University of Missouri-Kansas City, Louisiana State University, and the University of Central Florida. He is currently an adjunct professor in the Applied Behavior Analysis Program at the Florida Institute of Technology. He is the author of Teaching and Learning in Plain English and eight journal articles, and is the founder of the Journal of Precision Teaching. For the past 25 years, he has served as a consultant to school districts, residential programs, and private schools in North America and Western Europe. In 2000, he was part of the first group of board certified behavior analysts.

Project ACT (Autism Community Training) is an initiative of the Tidewater Autism Society of America (TASA). In an effort to provide educators, administrators and child care professionals, as well as parents and others, training, in accordance with international best practices. Our goal is to enable parents, professionals and para-professionals to support children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorder to live productive, satisfying lives within their families and communities.

Upcoming workshops in the Project ACT series include:

February 2008: Tamara Kasper M.S., CCC-SLP, BCBA

June 2008: Rick Kubina, Ph.D., BCBA

October 2008: Mark Sundberg, Ph.D., BCBA

Watch for more details at www.tidewaterasa.org!
MEET and GREET!

On Friday evening, October 12th, join us for an informal evening with Dr. McGreevy to learn “What exactly is ABA-VB?” Hor d’oeuvres and beverages will be served on the Library balcony at 6:30 p.m. followed by a brief presentation and a question answer session in the Library Auditorium on the 2nd floor.

Conference Registration

☐ Early Bird $60.00 per participant (postmarked by October 1) includes Meet and Greet.

☐ After October 1st and Walk ins $70 (space permitting).

☐ I will be attending the Meet & Greet.

__________________________________________________________________

Last Name                  First Name
____________________________________   __________________   _____

Street Address                               City                      State      Zip

(      )____ - ______     (      )____-______   __________________  ________________

Daytime Phone No.         Evening Phone No.     E-mail address      Agency/Organization

Send this registration form with a check to:

TASA

6300 East Virginia Beach Boulevard, Norfolk, VA 23502

For more information contact: 757-461-4474 or

E-Mail: tidewaterasa@verizon.net

The conference will be held at Regent University's Communication and Performing Arts Center located at 1000 Regent University Drive, Virginia Beach, VA, 23464. From Interstate 64, take Exit 286B onto Indian River Road. Make a right hand turn at Centerville Turnpike and then the first right into Regent University (There will be a brick guard shack.) The building is to the left with free parking all around the building.