

ASD



New for the classroom

Our new "Bounce Houses" are in and stored at Verellen and Standish. We are excited for everyone to use them!

NEWS March 2010

Pulling it all together –

Give a family night activity a twist to include everyone.

For children who don't know their left/right... Place a sticker of the color being called on top of their hand or foot to match it to the circle.

Matching game. Cut out primary colored paper for each child to match. Increase the difficulty by cutting the colors into shapes of a foot or hand.

Picture identification Use pictures instead of the colors. Make it more difficult by using color associations, such as apples are? Red

Learn other body parts (e.g., elbows, head, etc.) Forget the spinner and call out body parts.

A FROM MISS. CINDY



What is Music Therapy?

"Music therapy is the prescribed use of music, and the relationship that develops through shared musical experiences, to assist or motivate a person toward specific, non-musical goals. Music therapists use music to effect changes in cognitive, physical, communication, social and emotional skills". (Prelude Music Therapy 2008)

How can Music Therapy help students with Autism Spectrum Disorders?

The structure of music and its inherent characteristics of rhythm, melody, sequence, and accessibility give students with autism a mode to learn and generalize skills. Music is non-verbal and non-threatening, and provides students at all levels of functioning successful experiences in a social setting. Music motivates students to increase focus, attention and active participation in meaningful activities. Music can stimulate speech, reciprocal communication, movement (rhythmic and free), while engaging in an enjoyable setting.

How is Music Therapy utilized at Bay-Arenac ISD?

Cindy Humphreys, a Board Certified Music Therapist, works directly with the elementary ASD programs in the classroom and as a consultant with the middle school and students at LLC-Bay.

Words of Wisdom from the Web
www.musictherapy.org
www.gvsu.edu/autismcenter
www.autismspeaks.org
www.usevisualstrategies.com

Teachers

Trina Badour, Standish El Kelly Ballard, Cramer Middle School Marci Cotter, Hughes El Debra Payne, Verellen El

This pilot newsletter will continue monthly this year, with plans for a quarterly format for 2010-11. We look forward to questions or comments to our Editor, Connie Witzke, OTR, witzkec@baisd.net. All team members can be contacted by email: LastnameFirstintital@baisd.net