



Parent Partnerships

A Newsletter for Parents with Children who have Moderate to Severe Disabilities
Educational Equity For All

June 2016

Common Core News



2016 Mathematics Framework Chapters (Posted May-2016)

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/ma/cf/mathfw/chapters.asp>



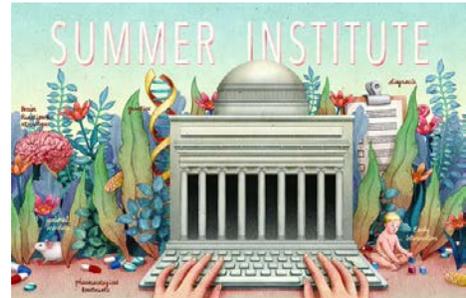
Building Bridges Camp gives individuals who use Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) and Assistive Technology (AT) an opportunity to develop their communication skills in a fun, motivating, no-pressure environment in Boulder Creek.

The Bridge School and BBC&TI are announcing exciting changes for our 2016 summer program. In lieu of the week-long over night camp, we have planned a week-long day camp to be held on The Bridge School campus.

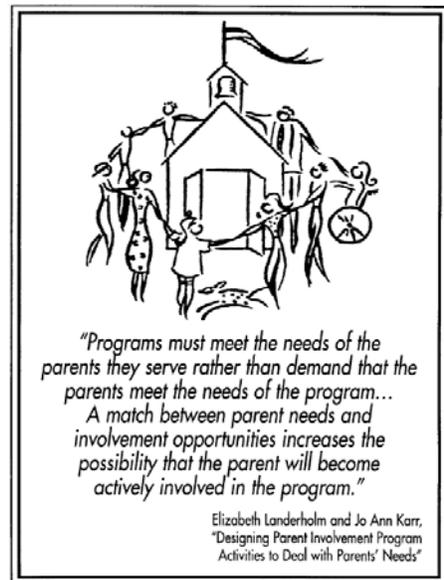
The Building Bridges Camp for children who have physical impairments and complex communication needs (CCN) and their siblings will be held Monday, June 20 to Friday, June 24, 2016. The Training Institute will be held Saturday, June 18th to Friday, June 24th. The trainers will be in session from 9:00 AM until 6:00 PM each day. The campers will be on site from 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM, Monday through Friday.

The trainer to camper ratio will be one-to-one. Camp will be limited to 40 campers with physical impairments and complex communication needs, 10 siblings, and 40 trainers.

Check back for more details and registration information. If you have questions, contact us at camp@bridgeschool.org or 650-696-7295.



The **International Society for Autism Research (INSAR)** is hosting a free series of six weekly online seminars on research into the familial aspects of autism. The INSAR Summer Institute 2016 will run Thursdays from June 23 to July 28 (times vary) and will cover topics including family risk factors, parent-led interventions, autism in adulthood and autism symptoms in siblings who don't meet the full criteria for an autism diagnosis. <https://www.autismspeaks.org/science/science-news/insar-summer-institute-free-online-seminars-familial-aspects-autism>



"Programs must meet the needs of the parents they serve rather than demand that the parents meet the needs of the program... A match between parent needs and involvement opportunities increases the possibility that the parent will become actively involved in the program."

Elizabeth Landerholm and Jo Ann Karr,
"Designing Parent Involvement Program Activities to Deal with Parents' Needs"

Feature Idea of Month How to Keep Your Special Needs Child Safe While Participating in Summer Activities

Parent's Checklist: A Must

When preparing for other summer activities, families are accustomed to making an assortment of lists to aid planning. It is equally important to organize and post a listing of the "Special Needs Safety Tips Checklist" to ensure summer safety for the child with special needs. These tips should include instructions for travel, water safety, heat precautions, medications, allergy issues and communication/social skills. Special supplies needed by your child (catheters, epi-pens, etc.) should also be itemized. When the family and other caregivers are comfortable with directions, everybody's summer will be more fun-filled and less stressful.

<http://www.brighthubeducation.com/parents-and-special-ed/119673-summer-safety-for-kids-with-special-needs/>

10 Benefits of Chores For Your Child With Special Needs

1. Learn an important life skill

Whether we like it or not, household chores are a necessary part of everyday life, ensuring that our homes continue to run efficiently, and that our living environments remain organized and clean, thereby promoting good overall health and safety.

2. Beneficial to siblings

It is helpful for siblings of kids who have disabilities to see that *everyone* in the family participates in keeping the family home running, each with responsibilities that are appropriate for his or her unique skill sets and abilities.

3. Purpose

Having responsibilities like chores provides one with a sense of both purpose and accomplishment.

4. Preparation for Employment

Learning how to carry out household chores is an important precursor to employment.

5. Make your life easier

Your kids can actually be of help to you! At first, teaching these chores may require more of your time and energy, but in many cases your child will be able to eventually do his or her chores completely independently, ultimately relieving you of certain responsibilities.

6. Chores may make your child more accountable

If your child realizes the consequences of making a mess, he or she may think twice, knowing that being more tidy in the present will help make chores easier.

7. Develop fine and gross motor skills and planning abilities

Tasks like opening a clothes pin, filling and manipulating a watering can and many more actions are like a workout for the body and brain and provide practical ways to flex those muscles!

8. Teach empathy

Helping others out and making their lives easier is a great way to teach empathy.

9. Strengthen bonds with pets

There is a growing body of research about how animals can help individuals with special needs.

10. Gain an appreciation and understanding of currency

What better way to teach your child the value of a dollar than by having him earn it.

<http://www.friendshipcircle.org/blog/2012/10/24/the-ten-benefits-of-chores-for-your-child-with-special-needs/>



WEBSITES AND RESOURCES

<http://www.friendshipcircle.org/blog/2012/06/20/82-summer-activities-for-families-with-special-needs/>

<http://www.metrokids.com/MetroKids/January-2010/For-Children-with-Special-Needs-Activites-Build-Skills-and-Self-Esteem/>

<http://www.sandiegofamily.com/resources/flourishing-families-special-needs-resources/1309-self-care-special-needs-parenting>

<http://www.bayarearent.com/Article/Special-Needs-Camps-in-the-Bay-Area/>

Summer Activities For Special Needs Children

1. Dig for worms
2. Build a "fairy house"
3. Hide and Go Seek
4. Paint with ice cubes –
5. Make fruit kabobs –
6. Create fresh lemonade
7. Pick some flowers
8. Ice Age Archeology
9. Cloud watching
10. Go under a sensory friendly sprinkler
11. Create a wall of Music



A Crash Course in Meltdown Management

<http://www.friendshipcircle.org/blog/ebooks/>