

Signs and Symptoms of a Pragmatic language Disorder

For more information
visit our website at
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Pragmatic Language & Social Skills Training



A Child Who:

- Asks excessive questions
- Lacks eye contact
- Uses literal or concrete understanding of language
- Uses aggressive language
- Only talks about himself
- Talks excessively about specific subjects in too much detail
- Has difficulty answering open ended questions such as “what happened?”
- Is unable to express feelings
- Has difficulty reading body language, facial expressions, and respecting personal space
- Is unable to express feelings
- Is unable to take the listeners perspective
- Is uninterested in other children
- Has difficulty engaging in conversation
- Has difficulty with abstract language such as double meanings, innuendos, jokes and verbal problem solving



**Communication
Matters**
of South Florida, Inc.



Member of the



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Our goal is to assist children in practicing peer interaction in a safe and facilitative environment. Through scripted language, modeling, discussions, role playing and videotaping we focus on improving:

- 1) Communication skills to include conversation skills, cooperative play skills and friendship management.
- 2) Emotional management skills including self regulation, empathy and conflict management.

Communication Matters of South Florida, Inc. located in Miami, Florida, specializes in the evaluation and treatment of pediatric speech and language disorders.

Our pragmatic social language groups are designed to assist children with PDD, High Functioning Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, Nonverbal Learning Disorders, Semantic Pragmatic Language disorders, ADHD, and Social anxiety. These social groups allow children to learn and practice peer interaction skills in a safe, facilitative environment.

The small groups are formed with a maximum of six children of similar age and language functioning plus one to two children with age appropriate language skills. These models assist in modeling appropriate language skills and social interaction.

The groups are led by a certified/licensed speech and language pathologist who facilitates the groups by scripting language, modeling behavior, and discussing social topics and situations during games and interactive activities. The groups meet in 6-8 week cycles for one hour and fifteen minutes per session.

What is pragmatics and social skills training?

Pragmatics is...

- The area of language both verbal and non verbal, in social contexts.
- The ability to know what to say and how and when to say it.
- The ability to use language for different purposes such as greeting, informing, demanding, promising and requesting.
- The ability to change language according to the needs of the listener such as talking differently to a baby than an adult. It also involves the ability to follow the rules of conversation such as topic maintenance, turn taking, eye contact, facial expressions and using appropriate personal space.

Social skills involve behaviors that promote productive and positive interactions with others. These social skills may include manners, appropriate classroom behavior, and ways to deal with frustration and anger.

Skill Builders

In our Skill Builders group, we work to lay the foundation for basic communication skills. These skills include requesting, following directions, turn taking, waiting ones turn, maintaining eye contact, respecting others and sharing.

This group is made up of a maximum of six children who have language ages of approximately 4-8 years of age.

Social Climbers

Our Social Climbers groups are ready to take their basic social /pragmatic skills to the next level. They are learning to read non-verbal language such as body postures, and tone of voice. They learn skills to appropriately deal with bullying, ways to handle frustration and anger as well as acceptable ways to deal with conflict. Through role playing and videotaping they learn how to make and keep friends as well as how to take other's perspectives into consideration.

