

Social Dyad Model – *Forming a Peer Relationship*

Tulsa Autism Foundation

March 25, 2008

Social Dyad Model – *Forming a Peer Relationship*

- What do we as parents want for our kids socially?
 - Good manners
 - Show respect and interest in others
 - Learn to take turns
 - Play by the rules
 - Learn to be a good sport
 - Learn to be flexible
 - Make and keep good friends
 - Learn how to resolve conflicts in an acceptable manner
 - Have fun

Social Dyad Model – *Forming a Peer Relationship*

- What are some of the social issues children on the Autism spectrum face?
 - Profile of Social Difficulty

Social Dyad Model – *Forming a Peer Relationship*

- What is a dyad social model and how does it work?
 - Pairing two children together to teach specific desirable actions for social competence in a setting where they have multiple practice and are set up for success.
 - Formed with a child on the spectrum and a neuro-typical child close in age.
 - Builds upon the strengths and weaknesses of the child for whom it was formed.
 - The “helper”, with guidance from the therapist, encourages new social behavior and interactions.
 - By the very nature of the small setting, the session can be easily shaped and formed to meet the child and what he/she brings to the table that day.
 - The “helper” benefits by learning new social skills as well.
 - Prompts and cues are eventually removed as skills are learned.

Social Dyad Model – *Forming a Peer Relationship*

- What children are candidates?
 - High-functioning Autism
 - Asperger Syndrome
 - PDD-NOS
 - Children who do not have a formal diagnosis but exhibit severe social deficits who are not ready for a larger group.
 - Milder language impairments
 - Ages 4 years and up

Social Dyad Model – *Forming a Peer Relationship*

- How do we select lessons?
 - Special needs (view profile)
 - Special interests
 - Language abilities
 - Reading abilities
 - Sensory issues
 - Academic level

Social Dyad Model – *Forming a Peer Relationship*

- Games and materials to implement social lessons
 - Dry erase board
 - Butcher paper
 - Board games
 - Interactive play sets
 - Dramatic play – costumes
 - Puppets
 - Books
 - Puzzles

Social Dyad Model – *Forming a Peer Relationship*

- Questions -