PRESCHOOL SEMINAR 2021

BOUNCING BACK: PATHWAY TO SUCCESS



Organised by:



Specialised
Educational
Services
UNLOCKING POTENTIAL

Specialised Educational Services is a division of the Dyslexia Association of Singapore.

Back by popular demand, join us at our 9th Preschool Seminar. A purposeful blend of deep exploration featuring 3 keynote topics emphasising the importance of early literacy intervention, resilience and grit, and executive functioning skills. It also includes 3 workshops imparting practical tips to help preschool learners achieve. Our speakers comprise:

- · Paediatrician from KK Women's and Children's Hospital
- · Speech and Language Therapists from DAS and PCF Inclusive Education Team
- Professor for the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders in the School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences at MGH Institute of Health Professions, Boston
- · Popular children's book author from United States, a former teacher and school counsellor
- · Preschool Educational Therapists from DAS

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS:

Building Executive Functioning Skills in Children

Executive function has been a buzzword in child development for some time now. But what exactly is executive functioning?



In the brain, the ability to hold onto and work with information, focus thinking, filter distractions and switch gears are the capacities that scientists term as executive function and self-regulation. We will explore how these skills are important in a child's development, what constitutes executive function at the different ages in childhood and specifically, its relationship to learning, behaviour and emotions, social relationships and function, and longer range outcomes – such as school achievement, good health and successful work.

SPEAKER: **Dr Sylvia Choo**, **Senior Consultant Department of Child Development**, **KK Women's and Children's Hospital**

Reboundaries and Resilience: Enhancing Skills that Foster Boundary Recognition, Determination and GRIT!

How do we accomplish the great task of teaching our kids the BIG LIST of everything they need to know and succeed in life when they believe that all of their needs are being met through screen time? How do we teach our kids online safety? How do we allow technology to add to our children's life as opposed to taking from it? How do we create an environment where kids genuinely "want it" more than we want it for them? In her research-based keynote, Julia takes a look at how creative world-class parents and educators are answering these questions and helping children thrive with strength and confidence in their ever-changing world!



Early Identification and Intervention for Children at Risk for Reading Disabilities

How can we determine which preschoolers are at risk of struggling with various reading skills? How does knowing a child's family history of reading difficulties help with this determination? Early predictors of primary school word recognition and reading comprehension will be identified. Parents and teachers will learn research-supported techniques for aiding children's narrative development, foundational word recognition abilities, and language comprehension.



SPEAKER: Charles W. Haynes, EdD, CCC-SLP, Professor

Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders in the School of Health and Rehabilitation

Sciences at MGH Institute of Health Profession, Boston

WORKSHOP TOPICS:

HAVE ACCESS TO ALL 4 WORKSHOPS



Interactive Story Reading: An Engaging Experience to Teach Vocabulary, Comprehension, and Writing

Children love being read to. In fact, researchers have always stressed on the importance of reading story books. However, are you reading the right way to get the best benefits out of story books? Often, reading story books is done through a one-way read aloud manner and the true benefits of story reading are not optimised. Interactive story reading is a method that researchers recommend to get the most out of story reading. Join our workshop to master simple but effective interactive story reading strategies so that you can teach Vocabulary, Comprehension, and Writing through a fun and engaging experience.



2 Managing Attention issues with Mindfulness

What is Mindfulness? What does it mean to be mindful? How do we teach Mindfulness to young children? There are many definitions and principles found about Mindfulness but let us go to its origins from its founder, Jon Kabat-Zinn, "Mindfulness means paying **attention** in a particular way; on purpose, in the present moment and non-judgmentally." The most common concern from parents and educators is how to develop, sustain and prolong the child's attention. In this workshop, we will focus on tips and strategies in using Mindfulness practice to develop attention, in our classrooms with preschoolers with specific learning needs.



SPEAKERS:
Seet Xian Hui & Tammy Wong
DAS Speech and Language Therapists

3 Using Prompts to Support Children in Conversations

Do you sometimes find it difficult to get your child to talk about his day or feel stuck when your child responds with "I don't know"? There are many possible reasons why children may struggle to express themselves verbally. However, we can support these children by being more purposeful in our interactions, through the use of prompts. Prompts are strategies that help the child to express verbally, while also increasing language learning. Join us as we share prompting strategies across various everyday situations that are easy for you to implement whether at home or in the classroom. Like Vygotsky said, "What a child can do today with assistance, she'll be able to do by herself tomorrow."



Naturalistic Intervention Approaches in an Inclusive Classroom

A child's brain develops at an accelerated rate during their early years, which means time is of the essence when it comes to intervention. Children with speech and language delays often receive intervention from speech and language therapists who see them outside of the classroom. However, caregivers, educators and peers can have astounding impact on intervention goals once the child's learning and interests are considered and aligned in an inclusive classroom setting with naturalistic intervention approaches.

Through this workshop, caregivers and educators will gain first-hand knowledge and tips on how to support positive adult-child social and communicative interactions by implementing naturalistic communication-promoting strategies, to increase opportunities for children's expressive communication. Learn about the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) framework that supports inclusion and offers a common foundation for the implementation of collaborative speech, language practices during classroom activities and/or home activities too.

PRESCHOOL SEMINAR 2021

17 MARCH, WEDNESDAY

VIDEO CONFERENCE VIA ZOOM <u> IVE AT 10.00 A</u>





Fee: \$38 per pax (inclusive of GST)

Please note:.

- This fee excludes Eventzilla's platform fee of \$1.75, chargeable to each participant.
- · Invoicing and PayNow is available for group/bulk purchase. Please download the form at tinyurl.com/PS2021-DAS and send it to events@das.org.sg

KEYNOTE PRESENTATIONS!

Building Executive Functioning Skills in Children

Dr Sylvia Choo, KK Women's and Children's Hospital

Reboundaries and Resilience: Enhancing Skills that Foster Boundary Recognition, Determination and GRIT!

Julia Cook, Award-winning Children's Book Author

Early Identification and Intervention for Children at Risk for Reading Disabilities

Charles W. Haynes MCH Institute of Health Profession, Boston

ACCESS ALL 4 WORKSHOP TOPICS

- **Interactive Story Reading**
- **Managing Attention issues** with Mindfulness
- **Using Prompts to Support** Children in Conversations
- **Naturalistic Intervention Approaches** in an Inclusive Classroom

If you are a parent, educator or professional working with preschool children, join us and learn practical strategies and tips to help preschool learners achieve.

REGISTER VIA THIS LINK NOW!



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