Integrated Social Skills Groups for 6-8 year old Children with Social Skill Needs and Typically Developing Peers

Autism Educational Solutions is offering social skills play groups for children with social skill needs, to play and socialize with others in a highly structured, enriching and fun environment. All the activities planned will be age appropriate and led by certified special education teachers, with extensive training in social skill facilitation, play based instruction and communication strategies. Teachers will utilize social skills curriculums that focus on identifying thoughts and feelings, showing how to listen to others, following a group plan, negotiating and keeping one’s body in the group.

AES is offering enrollment to at least 5 children with social skills needs and 5 typically developing children to participate in this unique group.

Each child with special social skill needs will have:
1. Multiple opportunities to practice specific skills embedded in age appropriate play activities.
2. Access to peer models that receive teacher feedback on how to initiate and maintain social interactions with others.
3. Adult facilitation and coaching on communicating with others, purposeful play and social nuances.

Parents of children with social skill needs will provide a copy of their child’s Individualized Education Plan or Section 504 Plan and complete a Play Preference, Communication and Social Skill Inventory.

Each typically developing peer will:
1. Engage in fun and motivating activities
2. Have the opportunity to help others and model appropriate skills
3. Develop an understanding and appreciation of people with special needs
4. Learn important social skills to function as part of a group.

Autism Educational Solutions, LLC (703) 232-1511 (office), (703) 621-1147 (fax) info@autismedsolutions.com
Every child will be learning the following skills:

1. All people have thoughts and feelings. The group will learn how to communicate thoughts and feelings, when to keep thoughts to oneself and how to adjust one’s behavior based on feedback from others.

2. Keeping your body with the group. A large part of communication is interpreting non-verbal cues. When your body is away from the group, the group members do not think you are part of the activity. The brain may “roll away” and the body may be sitting with the group but if your mind wanders to somewhere else you are not being part of the group.

3. We use our eyes to listen and communicate with others. “What you are looking at is what you are thinking about” So, if you are looking at the ceiling while talking, the person you are trying to talk to does not know you are talking/thinking of them.

4. When people work together, they follow a group plan. When we are part of a group we need to be flexible. We need to think of other people and change our own actions to be flexible.

5. All parts of the body are involved in listening to and processing information. When we engage in communication with others, we still our body and show others we are listening.

Please contact Tracey Greenwood at Tracey@autismedsolutions.com or (703) 232-1511 to determine if this group is appropriate for your child.

Price is $100 per child for 7 weeks.