



## Respite for Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder Survey

By C. Shanahan

Family Respite Services received funding this past year for our region to provide respite for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. The goal was to provide respite services to 109 children in our area. 172 children and their families received funding through this initiative. Another 21 received funding to assist their child to attend summer camp.

We are planning how to use these funds for next year. The funding for next year will begin in April, 2009. In Windsor/Essex, all the funding was allocated directly to families. The funds were then administered either by FRS or by the families themselves.

**What do you think? We want to hear from you.**

To complete the survey visit the Family Respite website at: [www.familyrespite.org](http://www.familyrespite.org)

## Tips for Buying Toys

Abstract taken for the *-Toys'R'Us Toy Guide for Differently-abled Kids(2008)-* Prepared by the National Lekotek Center

Use these questions to guide you in making the right match.

### MULTI-SENSORY APPEAL

Does the toy respond with lights, sounds or movement to engage the child?

Are there contrasting colors? Does it have a scent? Is there texture?

### METHOD OF ACTIVATION

What are the number and complexity of steps required to activate?

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS

Can play be open-ended with no definite right or wrong way?

### CHILD'S INDIVIDUAL ABILITIES

Does the toy provide activities that reflect both developmental and chronological ages?

Does it reflect the child's interests and age?

### SAFETY AND DURABILITY

Does the toy fit with the child's size and strength?

Does it have moisture resistance?

Are the toy and its parts sized appropriately? Can it be washed and cleaned?

### POTENTIAL FOR INTERACTION

Will the child be an active participant during use?

Will the toy encourage social engagement with others?

For assistance in selecting toys or play activities for a child who has disabilities, please visit the Lekotek website at: [www.lekotek.org](http://www.lekotek.org)

## "Task Galore" Task



check out this site each month for a new task idea!

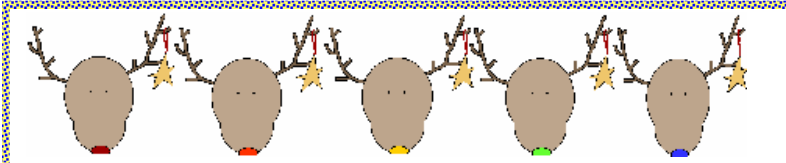
[www.tasksgalore.com](http://www.tasksgalore.com)

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This multi-modal spelling task makes spelling fun! Cards are drawn from the container to the left. Each card has one or more letters missing from the word which describes the picture. The matching clips are placed on the cards and finally they are dropped into a "finish" box.

**Come and look for our collection of**

**Task Galore Books!!**



*Because Autism doesn't take Holidays....*

*Many Thanks to our Donors.*

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*For making a difference*



## ASI

### *Mission Statement*

Our mission is to identify, coordinate and assure delivery of quality supports while advocating for individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder, to enable them to reach their maximum potential within the community.

### **With Deepest Sympathy**

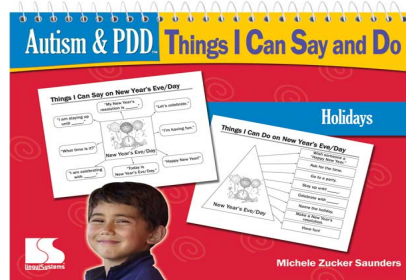
We would like to extend our deepest sympathy to Eda Cross and her family for the recent loss of their son and brother Eric. Eric began attending the Summer Program in 1995 when he was just 8 yrs old. He will be deeply missed by everyone at ASI.

## *Lending Library*

**Monday – Friday  
8:00am—4:00pm**  
Check Our Specialized  
Computer Software, create  
choice boards, schedules, social  
stories and more!!!!

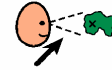
### **A book for the Holiday!!!!**

This book features specific situations during the special days of the year. Designed specifically for students with communication disorders and those with autism/PDD. It has visual organizers that capitalize their learning style.



**Check it out. We have five additional titles**

# Places to go, things to see!!



## November



### Nov.7 - 16

Windsor International Film Festival

Phone: 519-255-6530

Website: [www.windsorfilmfestival.ca](http://www.windsorfilmfestival.ca)

### Nov. 15

Madagascar 2

Lakeshore Cinemas in Tecumseh

Doors open at 10am

Cost: \$2.00 per person

Register by calling Catherine 519-250-9410

Email: [rcpwindsor@autismontario.com](mailto:rcpwindsor@autismontario.com)

Must have diagnosis of autism to attend

### Nov. 20

River Lights/Tree Lighting Ceremony

Kings Navy Yard Park, Amherstburg

Festivities begin at 6pm

Phone: 519-730-1309.

Website: [www.amherstburg.ca](http://www.amherstburg.ca)

### Nov. 21-23

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

Capitol Theatre, Windsor

Phone: 519-737-9919

Website: [www.theatrealive.com](http://www.theatrealive.com)

### Nov. 22 - Jan. 4, 2009

16th Annual Fantasy of Lights

Lakeside Park, Kingsville

Phone: 519- 733-2123.

Website: [www.fantasyoflights.ca](http://www.fantasyoflights.ca)

### Nov. 28

BIA Tree Lighting Celebration & A Visit from Santa

Optimist Park, Belle River

Hours: 6pm until 9pm

Phone: 519.728.4624

Website: [www.belleriverbia.com](http://www.belleriverbia.com)

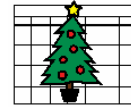
### Nov. 29 Light Up the Night Christmas Parade

Erie St. Leamington

Parade begins at 7pm

Phone: 519-326-2721

## December



### Dec. 4 – 7

"A Christmas Story"

Theatre Windsor, Market Square, Windsor

Thurs.– Sat. @ 8 Sun. @ 2pm

Phone: 519-944-1968

Website: [www.theatrewindsor.com](http://www.theatrewindsor.com)

### Dec. 6

Swimming at the Vollmer Complex (LaSalle)

3:15pm—4:15pm

Register by calling Catherine 519-250-9410

Email: [rcpwindsor@autismontario.com](mailto:rcpwindsor@autismontario.com)

### Dec. 6

40th Annual Windsor Santa Claus Parade

Parade begins at 6pm from Atkinson Park West into Sandwich Towne

Phone: 519-254-2880

<http://www.santaparade.org/main/map.html>

### Dec. 7

Christmas in the Country

Seasonal Historic Event

John R. Park Homestead

Adult \$5, child \$3, Family \$16 . 10am to 4pm

Phone: 519-738-2029

Website: [www.erca.org](http://www.erca.org)

### Dec. 18

Candlelight Christmas

John R. Park Homestead

Take a candlelight tour back in time to the 1850's.

**Pre-registrations required, limited numbers.**

\$8.00/person

Phone: 519-738-2029

[www.erca.org](http://www.erca.org)

**NOTE** Event information is always subject to change by the event holders. Always call ahead.

# Workshops

## November

Wednesday, November 12

### All About Autism "Communication"

Presented by Cathy Coppens, SLP

Location ASI Library 6:30 pm

Call 519-966-7283 or email: [allaboutautism@cogeco.ca](mailto:allaboutautism@cogeco.ca) to register

Monday, November 17

### High Functioning Support Group

St. Mathews Church Hall 1600 Norfolk

519-972-8381 or 519-972-9277

Monday, November 24

### Summit Centre Parent Support Group

Call Kristy at 519-255-1195. If you need our staff to supervise your child with autism, please let us know when your RSVP by Wednesday November 17, 2008.

### Summit Centre Sibling Support Group

For kids 4 to 12 years. Come meet new friends, also activities, games, prizes, pizza and snacks!

Call Kristy at 519-255-1195 to register

**PLEASE NOTE EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 10TH  
SUMMIT CENTRE NEW ADDRESS  
940 PRINCE RD.  
WINDSOR, ON**

Wednesday November 26

### Navigating Services for Individuals With a Dual Diagnosis—FREE Workshop

Essex United Church—53 Talbot St. Essex, ON

7pm—9pm, Beverages & snacks will be provided

Register by Email NO LATER than November 19th

Dorothy Verkaik [dverkaik@wgh.on.ca](mailto:dverkaik@wgh.on.ca)

Next All About Autism Workshop

### It is not too Early to plan for School

This workshop will be presented by Diane Tope-Ryan from Thames Valley Children's Centre, Tony Gabriel from WECDSB and Jennifer Newton from GECDsB on

**January 14, 2008 at 6:30 pm  
At ASI Library**

## December

Wednesday, December 10

**All About Autism "Safety Issues"** . Presented by Jason Hull. Parent of a child with Autism, City of Windsor Firefighter and ASI president Location ASI Library 6:30 pm . Call 519-966-7283 or at [allaboutautism@cogeco.ca](mailto:allaboutautism@cogeco.ca) to register

Monday, December 15

### Summit Centre Parent Support Group "Potluck"

R.S.V.P Please contact Kristy at 255.1195. If you need our staff to supervise your child with autism, please let us know when your RSVP by Wednesday December 10, 2008.

### Summit Centre Sibling Support Group

For kids 4 to 12 yrs. Come meet new friends, also activities, games, prizes, pizza and snacks! R.S.V.P Please contact Kristy at 255.1195

## *Board of Directors*

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