

# November News

The Learning Lane  
The Woodlands, TX

Newsletter Date:  
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Volume 1, Issue 2

## The Learning Lane Tribute

### Academic Achievements:

Hello from the Pre Academic Room-

Wow, already a new month is upon us! We are looking forward to the start of sending home practice work for our students. The practice work we will send home is meant for practice purposes only. We hope this experience with your child will be enjoyable, and as rewarding an experience for you as it is for us. It also serves as informational as we keep you familiarized with what we are working on in the Pre Academic room. Currently each one of our Pre Academic teachers has worked with your child one on one, but generally in small groups. In the Pre Academic room we foster a preschool environment to help offer your child the full preschool experience. The time we spend working with your child is a joy and pleasure.

Thanks so much- The Pre-Ac Room  
Helpful website: Starfall.com

### Social Site:



#### Learning to Listen

Your child may still be listening to you even though they may not show it. By using some fun activities, you can teach your child ways to show they are hearing you.

#### 1. Making Eye Contact

Practice making eye contact by taking turns winking. This can be combined with a game mimicking you by clapping, nodding, stomping, and winking. Play "hide-and-see" where your child has to look to find you, or have your child look in a hand mirror and then draw their eyes. Remind your child they are to look at the person who is talking to them.

#### 2. Don't Interrupt

While your child is talking, interrupt him and then explain you "bumped" words. Explain that when people are interrupted while they are talking, they feel ignored and may even feel mad.

#### 3. Be Still

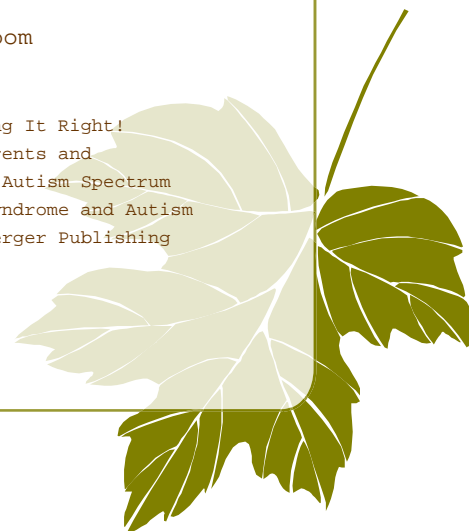
The game of statues is a fun way to practice being still. Take turns calling out "statue." The child should stand still and make eye contact with the person saying, "statue."

#### 4. Respond

A fun game of creating a "chain story" is a great way to teach your child to reply. A story might start by saying, "I went outside and saw a dog." Have your child repeat what you said and then add his own sentence. Take turns repeating and adding new information. Finally, model good listening to your child by making eye contact when they talk, not interrupting them, stopping what you are doing to listen, and responding to them.

Thanks from the Social Room

Source: Bareket Rachael, Playing It Right!  
Social Skills Activities for Parents and Teachers of Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders, Including Asperger Syndrome and Autism  
Shawnee Mission, KS: Autism Asperger Publishing Co., 2006



## Star Student of the Month: Annabeth

One of the best things about Annabeth is her personality. There are times when she is sweet and cuddly and then there are times she can be as stubborn as a brick wall. When Annabeth first started at the Learning Lane-she met her match with The Learning Lane Staff. I think she learned quickly that they would wait out her stubbornness and she would have to give in. Annabeth then decided that yelling and screaming didn't work with them-so she resorted to kisses and hugs to get her way. It still makes me laugh when she does it. Annabeth also likes to "get rid of people" who are getting in her way. For example-her grandmother was visiting and she saw Annabeth start to climb on something. Grandma told her no-so Annabeth got down, took her by the hand and led her into another room (where she couldn't see what Annabeth was doing) and left her there. Annabeth then returned what she was doing and started climbing again. Luckily Grandma caught on quickly!

One of my favorite stories was one that Jennifer told me about Annabeth at school. Annabeth would not listen to directions and Jennifer told her to sit in the chair. Annabeth would not sit so Jennifer waited. Annabeth told Jennifer "Bye-Bye"-which Annabeth does when she wants someone to leave so she can go back to whatever it is she was doing. Jennifer finally told Annabeth if she wanted her to leave-she would have to sit in the chair first. Apparently-Annabeth walked over, sat in the chair then looked at Jennifer and said "Bye-Bye". Of course, I tell her Dad that the stubbornness comes from his side of the family...



## The Art Cart

October was a great month full of colorful leaves and spooky ghosts. This month we will be trying some marble painting and a Thanksgiving craft. This month we will also be part of an exciting event put on by the Woodlands Art League. We are hoping to have 20-25 works of art on display at an exhibit to be held November 14th at the South County Community Center, located at 2235 Lake Robbins Drive. I thank those of you who have already submitted pieces. For those of you who are new to The Learning Lane this year don't worry. Your child will have the opportunity to have at least one, piece of their work on display. It will be such an exciting event. Hope to see you there!!

Miss Patti



# KAMP

ACQUISITION

Knowledge Appreciation  
Memories Possibilities

October was a great month and we enjoyed meeting all of you at open house. We look forward to seeing you in our monthly parent trainings.

This month we have been working on every child's individual goals, through the STAR curriculum.

We would like to remind you to work on your parent training homework.

Here is a FUN websites that you can explore with your child.

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

## 1 0 1 WAYS TO ENCOURAGE KIDS

That is Incredible! How artistic! How Extraordinary! Outstanding Performance! I cannot get over it! Great! Unbelievable Work! Wonderful! Marvelous! Superb! Cool! You're Special! Your project is first rate! You've outdone yourself! Way To Go! Thumbs Up! You're a good friend! You came through! You tried hard! Your help counts! You made it happen! Fantastic work! You're a real trooper! Bravo! Exceptional! Awesome! Breathtaking! The time you put in really shows! You're a great example for others! Keep up the good work! Dynamite!

You should be proud of yourself! You made the difference! Well Done! You're getting there! What a great idea! You deserve a hug! Thanks for trying!  
You're getting better!  
You can be trusted! Remarkable!

Dates to remember:

**Nov 4<sup>th</sup>- Discovery Toy Night**  
5:30 –7:00 pm @ The Learning Lane

**Nov 5<sup>th</sup>- NHC-ASA Meeting**  
7:00 –9:00 pm @ Graceview Church

**Nov 25<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup> –Thanksgiving Break**  
TLL CLOSED

**Dec 18<sup>th</sup> –Snow Day**  
More information to come ☺

## From the Program Director

It was a pleasure to get to meet many of you through our parent conferences. I value your input in developing goals for our students and appreciate all of the discussion we had about your children and their learning. Your input is welcome throughout the year, not just at our conferences, and I want you to feel welcome to contact me at any time. Please email or call if you have any questions!

Steph



## Communication through Play

For children with language delays, look for toys that offer repetition. Books that have repetitive phrases or toys that continually repeat concepts and directions are great choices. Suggested types of toys by age:

**Preschool: 3-5 years.** Introduce toys that inspire pretend play/imagination and allow children to imitate mom or dad to practice life skills. Examples include cash registers, toy telephones, make-believe town sets, dollhouses, and furniture, games that require turn taking and story games. Children in this group are fascinated with how and why things work. Construction sets, washable crayons and markers, paints, modeling clay, books, and simple board games encourage creativity.

**School Age: 5-9 years.** Encourage children to share and introduce toys and games that teach both team playing and independence. Consider toys that boost self-esteem and allow children to use their personalities. Choose hobby sets, sports toys, computer software, problem-solving math toys, construction sets with detailed elements, and storybooks with valuable messages. Games are available to help children learn specific skills, including counting, matching, and problem solving. Board games are now available that offer the opportunity to think and make guesses about the other participants.

**Preteen: 9-12 years.** Acceptance from friends and self-esteem are very important to this age group. Toys begin to seem less interesting to children of this age. Complex construction sets, multi-level board games, strategic puzzles, science toys, and activity kits are the best choices. Active and physical play should be an area of focus through team and group sports. Social and intellectual skills are refined through board, electronic, and card games. Always supervise your child's play and play with your child often! Those memories will last a lifetime.

Source - CW FALL 2009 Newsletter

## Discovery Toy FUNRAISER November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009

<http://thelearninglane.com/newsevents.html>

Discovery Toys, LLC. offers award winning toys, books, games, and software for all ages. The products are safe, developmentally appropriate, challenging, creative, and fun. The company is nationally recognized and enjoys an excellent reputation in the industry and among parents and educators.

This special "Fun-Raiser" is an opportunity for The Learning Lane to receive **10% of the proceeds** based on sales. These toys are an investment in your child's future. Most of the toys carry a lifetime guarantee.

Don't miss an Early Christmas Shopping Opportunity! **PLEASE DROP BY** the demonstration to play, chat, or ask questions on Wednesday, November 4 at 5:30PM. **Adults only please.** Products will be available to purchase that night. You may also order products from the catalog if not in stock. The Fun-Raiser will run from November 4 through November 14th.

## Snow Day Dec 18<sup>th</sup>, 2009

The Learning Lane has partnered with Special Events of Houston for this event. We will have more information for you as the day approaches. But you might want to think of getting some gloves for your child to wear that day since the snow will be "COLD"☺

<http://www.snowrentalshouston.com/>

