

# CST CHATTER BOX

#### I'M BORED! THERE'S NOTHING TO DO!

No more worries with coming up with games to play, whether sitting in a shady spot on a hot day, lounging on the beach or traveling in the car!

#### **WORD GAMES**

Using the letters of the alphabet as the beginning letter for responses, come up with topics such as naming foods, movies, animals, and more. Start off with a catch phrase, like "I'm so hungry I could eat \_\_\_\_\_ foods or animals. Or list movies - A is for Apollo 13 and B is for Back to the Future and C is for . . . and so on and so on.

Rhyme words with words you spot on road signs. So STOP rhymes with pop, cop, bop, top and more. TURN rhymes with burn, learn, and fern.

Geographic A to Z places in the world: Kansas, say. The next person has to think of a place that begins with the last letter of Kansas, such as South Africa. Whoever goes next needs a place that starts with A. It has to be a real place — and no using a map!

#### **NUMBER GAMES**

Race to 20 as two players take turns counting to twenty. On each turn, a player can say one or two numbers. (If the first says "One," the second might say "Two, three.") Try to force your opponent to reach twenty first.

Buzz is a team effort to try to reach 100 without making a mistake. Take turns counting, beginning with one. Every time you get to a number that's divisible by seven (7, 14, 21, . . .) or has a seven in it (17), say "Buzz" instead of the number. If one person forgets to say "Buzz," everyone has to start over. If this is too hard, say "Buzz" for every number divisible by 5. If you want a real challenge, try Fuzz Buzz. Say "Fuzz" for every number with a three in it or that's divisible by three, and "Buzz" for every number with a seven in it or that's divisible by seven.

#### **GUESSING GAMES**

I Spy starts with "I spy with my little eye something green." Whoever guesses the item correctly goes

next.

Guess Mobile: Name a guess master—the person who poses a guessing challenge. He or she could ask passengers to guess the color of the next passing car. Or, with three clues, what it is that someone else sees.

The House on the Hill: Invent stories about people in the houses you see. What do you think they do for work? What's their favorite food? Where do they go on vacation? Get into lots of details, such as whether they snore loudly or are afraid of spiders. Give them names, hobbies, pets, and so on.

Guess My Name by acting out or imitating the motions, habits, and expressions of a famous person, such as an athlete, politician, musician, or actor. The clincher: No talking allowed! Players can ask Yes or No questions (which are met by a nod or a shake). The correct guesser does the next impression.

#### **MORE TRAVEL TIPS**

Strap a shoe bag to the back of the front seat and stuff it with your small kidentertainment supplies: crayons and coloring books; kids' magazines; craft supplies; a deck of cards;' Frisbee, etc.

#### Spring 2014

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#### Special points of interest:

- © This issue is dedicated to "Summer and Beyond"
- © Recreation and Summer Camps
- ☺ Talk the Special Ed. Talk
- Find out about Fizz, Boom, Read!
- Special Feature on Leslie Mozulay and Stephanie Dzikowski

### Helpful Resources for Parents

Parenting is a tough job and the need for help can come from time to time. Parenting education classes are designed to improve parenting knowledge and assist you in acquiring effect parenting skills. Here are some resources for parenting classes/support in the area:

Morris Psychological Group is offering a 5 week parenting skills workshop for parents and children with ADHD, Oppositional Defiant Disorder, and/or behavioral problems. This parenting skill workshop is tailored to the individual needs for the families who attend. For further information and registration call: Carly Orenstin, Psy.D at (973)

257-9000 x211 or Richard B. Dauber, Ph.D at (973) 257-9000 x203.



### Family Intervention Service are offering 8 free classes where

are offering 8 free classes where you can learn new parenting ideas, meet other parents and receive support and encouragement. For further information and registration contact: Jessica Delgado at (201) 779-3034.

### The Morris County Family Success Center is also a great

resource that is free and helps with information about health services for women, children, and family members, referrals to public and private social services, information about safe and affordable housing, assistance with job searches and preparation for employment interviews, assistance with interpretation and completion of forms, family activities for parents and children of all ages ... AND MUCH MORE. They are located at 73 Basset Highway, Dover, NJ (973) 620-9711.

All resources offer Spanish speaking staff/courses.

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### Glossary of Special Education Terms

Involvement with special education can bring about a whole new language of unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. It can be assumed that everyone is familiar with the meanings. Here are some common terms to help you for your meetings for next year!

**Accommodations:** Special academic and/or behavioral adjustments that assist a student in the classroom.

**Behavior Intervention Plan (BIP):** A plan that is put in place to teach a child proper behavior and social skills.

Early Intervention (EI): Specialized services provided to infants and toddlers ages birth to three who are at risk for or are showing signs of a developmental delay.

Extended School Year (ESY): Special education and related services during the summer vacation to prevent a child with a disability from losing previously learned skills.



Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE): An individualized educational program that is designed to meet the child's unique needs.

In Class Resource (ICR): A classroom setting where general and special education students are instructed, and the special education teacher provides the modifications and accommodations to the students with IEPS.

Individualized Education Program (IEP): A written statement of the child's educational performance and individualized plan of instruction, including goals, and specific services to be received.

Least Restrictive Environment (LRE): The placement for children with disabilities that is, to the maximum extent appropriate, where they are educated with children who are not disabled

**Modifications:** Change or alterations to what is being measured or taught.

Pull Out Replacement (POR): A special education class for only students with IEPs that require a smaller setting, slower pace, and modified curriculum for that subject area.

Response to Intervention (RTI): A general education process that provides support for general ed. students experiencing academic and behavioral difficulties.

Section 504: A federal law that protects the civil rights of individuals with disabilities. Accommodations can be made for children if they meet the 504 eligibility criteria.

Self-Contained: A more restrictive special education setting in the public school; it is a program indicated for children with, for example, learning and language disabilities (LLD), multiple disabilities (MD) or autism (ASD).

### What to Expect from CST Next Year!

After brushing up on some of these special education terms, it may also be helpful for you to start the upcoming school year with some helpful CST tips on what may be helpful and what to expect. (Mentioned are some additional terms for you to know!)

- 1. On top of getting to know your child's classroom teacher, feel free to get in contact and reach out to your child's case manager. Your child will be monitored by someone on the child study team— either the school psychologist, school social worker, or learning disabilities teacher consultant (LDTC).
- 2. Anticipate for when your child's mandated Annual Review (AR) will occur. An annual review consists of a special education teacher, general education teacher, case manager, and parents. The team will discuss the IEP and how your child has been doing. Bring questions and concerns!
- 3. Consider whether or not you want your child to be reevaluated for continued eligibility for special education and related services. It is a mandatory to consider retesting your child every three years from when he or she was first made eligible.
- 4. If your child is becoming school-aged or anticipating graduation into high school, be prepared for additional meetings to discuss the transitions and programs going forward.
- 5. The Child Study Team holds Parent Advisory Meetings multiple times during the school year. Keep an eye out for invitations with times and dates; we welcome your input, feedback, and concerns!

Feel free to come to the CST with any further questions or needs for clarification.

#### WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR THE SUMMER?

Check out the **Kids' Guide** website (<a href="www.kidsguidenj.com">www.kidsguidenj.com</a>) for a list of activities and programs available in Morris County over the summer. Camps and programs listed include Cooking Camps, Music/Dance Camps, Arts & Crafts Camps and many more! The website also gives information on local parks, historic sites and entertainment. Another website to consider is <a href="www.njkidsonline.com">www.njkidsonline.com</a> for a very comprehensive list of fun summer camp options.

In addition to these camps, there are summer camps in New Jersey that are geared for special needs or that focus specifically on building social skills. For example, *Camp Excel* focuses on developing social skills and the so-

cial awareness necessary for better relationships with other children and adults. Their website is www.campexcel.com.

Harbor Haven (www.harborhaven.com) is a comprehensive summer program that provides an opportunity for children ages 3-15 with mild special needs to experience typical summer activities including sports, swim, na-



ture, art and so much more. Social skills group, daily academics and other related therapy groups are added components of the program.

The **HI-STEP** summer program, by Behavior Therapy Associates, is geared towards improving social skills and has three locations in New Jersey.

(www.behaviortherapyassociates.com/hi-stepsummer-program)

The SOAR Experience

(www.westbergen.org) is a therapeutic social skills program in a summer day camp-like environment for children and teens with Asperger's Syndrome and related disorders.

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#### COME AND SEEK THE CST

In order to provide more effective consultation with teachers, school staff, students, and administrators, the Child Study Team has taken advantage of several professional development seminars, workshops, and academic courses over this school year.

Some of our Child Study Team Members are pursuing continued education in the areas of Educational Leadership and Applied Behavior Analysis. One of our members attended a presentation detailing New Jersey's new Special Education Dyslexia Law that has recently been passed.

The Child Study Team also organized a presentation from the Family Intervention Service's Director of Programs. This presentation was accessible to staff from all three of the shared services school districts. In addition, the Child Study Team members disseminated information to their own respective schools that they

have offices in.

One very helpful seminar attended by the team was concerning disobedient, disruptive, defiant, and disturbed students. This seminar was led by Howard Knoff, who is a full-time national consultant, author, and lecturer. This provided the Child Study Team with several useful strategies to assist in providing services to students with defiant and disruptive behavior. Professor Knoff published a book entitled: School Discipline, Classroom Management, and Student Self-Management. This is a great source of information for teachers, school staff, and parents.

Another great professional development opportunity one of our members attended was concerning the PARCC assessment. The PARCC will be the new standardized state-wide assessment replacing the NJ ASK. Different accommodations for the test were discussed, which will help us

work with the school administration to provide our students the appropriate accommodations that they require.

Other professional development opportunities that were taken advantage of include:

- Assistive and Augmentative Communication System Development and Implementation Strategies
- Working with English Language Learner (ELL) Students
- Morris County Human Services Overview
- LGBTQ: Cultural Competence When Working with LGBTQ Youth

Come and seek the CST for more information on any of the above topics! We would love to share information with you.

### Summer Enrichment

Wharton Public Library will be kicking off the summer program "Fizz, Boom, Read!!" Mark your calendars for the kick-off on June 11th at 6:30pm at the library. Grubstake Glen, a cowboy from Wild West City, will be there along with the New Jersey Horse Council who will bring a real horse! Cowboy hats, boots and bandanas are welcome!

Eileen Burnash will be visiting the Wharton Public Schools on June 10th to dis-

cuss and explain the summer programs and answer any questions. Information will be posted on the website in early June! (www.whartonlibrary.org)

Rockaway Borough Public Library will begin registration for their summer program as well "Fizz, Boom, Read!!" The summer program will consist of a long list of activities including Mad Science, a visit from Big Jeff, Writing Workshops, Tot-Time and Story Time. Save the date of

August 8th as the library will kick-off their 100th Birthday Countdown!!! Check in on the website for updates! (www.rblibrary.org)

Check the local libraries to find out about "Fizz, Boom, Read!"

### May is Mental Health Month!

As mentioned in a prior CST newsletter, don't forget to check <a href="https://www.morrissussexresourcenet.org">www.morrissussexresourcenet.org</a> for opportunities and resources! Here are a few highlights of ongoing opportunities to improve yours or your loved one's mental health in the coming months.

5/20/14-7/8/14, 7-8:45 PM, Newton- Building Self Confidence Group, ages 13-18. (973-222-3750)



5/19/14, 7-9 PM, Denville- Post Secondary Planning and Transition; this forum will help families and teens prepare for what's next after high school graduation. (973-627-4600 x124)

5/22/14, 6:30-8:30 PM, Morristown- Effec-

tive Coping Skills for Families with Mental Health Issues. Admission is free! (1-888-247-1400)

6/25/14, 7:45-8:35, Morristown- Children and Adolescents with Mood Disorders. (973-994-1143)

6/26/14, 7:00- 8:30 PM, Sparta- When Your Loved One is in Crisis: How Psychiatric Emergency Services Can Help (201-317-6139)

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## Shared Services Child Study Team

Wharton Borough Schools 973-361-3010 Mine Hill Township School (CAS) 973-366-0590

Rockaway Borough Schools 973-625-8605



The Shared Services Child Study Team has made it a goal to increase communication and special education knowledge with parents as well as teachers and administration within the three school districts. As part of this goal, you will now be receiving newsletters from the team three times a year filled with information on special education practices/law, community resources, special needs tips, etc. We hope you find this helpful!

Leslie Mozulay, LDTC
Stephanie Dzikowski, LDTC
Stacy McCoy, School Psychologist
Brooke Hanenberg, School Psychologist
Sallyanne Carbon, School Social worker
Armi Clancy, School Social Worker

#### Get to Know Your CST

A Learning Disabilities Teacher-Consultant (LDT-C) is one of the required members of a Child Study Team. The primary responsibility of a LDT-C is to identify learning difficulties and assist with planning instructional programs for students with disabilities.

Leslie Mozulay is a fulltime LDT-C. Her office is located at the Wharton Borough School District. She is out and about servicing students in Wharton's Duffy Elementary School and MacKinnon Middle School, Rockaway Borough's Lincoln Elementary School and Thomas Jefferson Middle School, and Mine Hill Township's Canfield Avenue School.

Her teaching experiences enable her to collaborate with others to develop the Alternate Proficiency Assessment components for students in Grades 3-8. With an understanding of best practices and effective teaching strategies, she participates in I&RS, RTI and IEP meetings.

When not working, Leslie continues to hone her golf game, go fresh water fishing in Canada, bike around LBI, hang out with her 10 year old

German Shepherd, Cassie, and enjoy time with her husband, family and friends. You'll often hear Leslie saying if there's anything she can do to help just give her a call, anytime. She means it!



Stephanie Dzikowski & Leslie Mozulay, LDT-Cs

Stephanie Dzikowski is the LDT-C whose office is in Rockaway Borough but continues to service students in Mine Hill as well as Wharton. Stephanie continues to focus on students who attend schools "Out-of-District" while also case managing students within Rockaway Borough. Stephanie is a dual certified Elementary Education K-8 Teacher as well as a Special Education Teacher of the Handicapped K-12, who taught for more than 11 years in both settings. The experience in both areas provides Stephanie with an understanding of the variety of children's needs that we work with on a daily basis and is an asset when developing Individualized Education Programs. Stephanie also does Educational Evaluations, consults with I&RS and serves as part of the IEP team.

When not working, Stephanie is a busy mom to 4 sons, who will be finishing up her second Masters in Educational Leadership from St. Peters University next Spring. When she is not sitting on in the bleachers, watching one of her sons' baseball, basketball or football games, she enjoys running and spending time with her husband.