‘Great Communication’ Workshop

Would you like to know how to encourage early communication (talking and understanding) in young children? Would you like to know how gestures, signs and rhymes can help?

Terri Anderton, speech pathologist with young children, and parent of a child at NARA Community Childcare Centre would like to show you how to encourage great communication in young children.

Terri will be running a 2 ½ hour workshop at NARA on Saturday 20th June, 2009, 10 – 12.30. All funds raised will be donated to NARA.

This is a great workshop for parents or caregivers of children who are not yet talking, or who may only be using a few words. This workshop is not designed for children to attend. You may like to consider bringing an extra person with you to help look after your child if you are unable to find childcare.

Skills covered in the ‘Great Communication – Beginners’ Workshop

Baby Signing / Key word signing is used to highlight the most important words in your sentence. It helps a child to understand your meaning, and provides them with another way to try and communicate with you while they are developing speech. Signing has been shown to enhance speech and language development and is routinely used by speech pathologists to assist language development. All signs used are derived from Auslan, the sign language of the Australian deaf community, and are compatible with Makaton.

Rhymes help a child to learn language through their rhythm, simple melodies and intonation, and of course, our repetition of them. Language is highlighted in the rhymes by adding signs to the key words, making it easier for a child to understand and copy. Rhymes can be both traditional and home-made.

Language strategies such as: how to encourage your child to interact with you; how to gently correct your child’s errors; when and how to ask a question. Skills taught will guide you and your child to have enjoyable, successful communication together. A child who experiences successful communication will go on to attempt to communicate more, providing you with many more opportunities to help them improve their skills.

When: Saturday 20th June, 10 – 12.30am
Where: NARA Community Childcare Centre
77 – 91 St Georges Road
Preston 3072
Cost: $20.00 – All fees donated to NARA

Please send or hand your booking form and payment to:
Nara Community Childcare Centre
77 – 91 St Georges Road
Preston VIC 3072

For more information please phone Terri on 9443 8043

Great Communication Beginners Workshop – Saturday 20th June, 2009 10 – 12.30am
Nara Community Childcare Centre, rear NMIT, 77 – 91 St Georges Road, Preston 3072
Number of participants_____@ $20.00 = Total fee enclosed $_____
Name/s of participants:_____
_____
Phone number:_____ _____
Email:_____

I recommend and use resources which utilise Auslan Signs, and Key Word Signing strategies

Resources you may find useful…	**Available from…**
Tiny Hands - Australian Sign Language for Babies and Toddlers. Dictionary by Aileen Ryan. More than 230 sign pictures with written description of how to do them Small Talk -reference chart by Aileen Ryan. 45 signs as line drawings with written descriptions Sing and Sign with Me songbook	Aileen Ryan Hands Can Talk www.handscantalk.com.au Sometimes I have these items in stock at workshops
Key word signing dictionaries from Makaton Australia	Makaton NSW or Makaton Victoria, see below

Course / Training providers you may find useful…
Makaton Victoria, www.newcastle.edu.au/centre/sed/makaton/workshops.html Or www.newcastle.edu.au/centre/sed/makaton/victoria.html
Aileen Ryan, Hands Can Talk (NSW), www.handscantalk.com.au
The Auslan Company, www.auslan.net.au
Fingers and Thumbs, www.ofmd.com.au/fingers&thumbs

Contacts for people concerned about their child's language development…
If you have any concerns about your child's speech and language development, I would recommend that you seek a referral (see below) sooner rather than later. Unfortunately waiting lists for public services are long; anywhere from 3 or 4 months, to 12 months or more.
Your local Health Nurse or GP should be able to refer you to a Community Based Speech Pathologist. You may also choose to consult with a private or independent speech pathologist, their details may be found listed on the Speech Pathology Australia website, www.speechpathologyaustralia.org.au
Books which you may find useful include: 'It Takes Two to Talk', and 'More than Words' both produced by the team at Hanen (www.hanen.org), a Canadian Organisation committed to helping families and children with speech and language delays, including children with language and social difficulties associated with Autism Spectrum Disorders. Check your local library, or order online from Hanen or from Melbourne from Dart Products www.dartproducts.com.au