



Volume 2, Issue 3
Fall 2010

Newsletter

Endless Poss**ABILITIES**

BEHAVIOUR INTERVENTION & THERAPY SERVICES

A specialized treatment centre offering children options for better learning and coping skills.

MISSION STATEMENT

We are committed to excellence in program delivery and the success of each and every child we work with. Our passionate and dedicated staff strive to achieve every treatment objective using the most innovative and creative strategies possible.

We measure our success by your child's gains!

Special points of interest:

- *Autism in Social Media*
- *Fall Social Skills Program (SSP)*
- *Autism in the Media*
- *Get Informed*

Autism in Social Media

This past summer Autism Speaks teamed up with the founder of Wrongplanet.net, Alex Plank, to create a social media idea that can bring the autism community together.

Alex Plank was already creating an online show that talked about many viewpoints of the autism community. After discussions with Autism Speaks, Alex's show has now evolved into Autism Talk TV.

Autism Talk TV has combined one of the

missions of Autism Speaks, which is to bring the community together through the use of social media, and Alex's goals of connecting individuals with autism, spreading awareness and educating the public.

Autism Speaks is providing funding, assistance with the access by the public and information, as well as show promotion. Alex will be handling promotion of the show, as well he attends conferences around the country and documents people's life stories.

Autism is very personal to Alex, as he was diagnosed with autism at the age of nine. Alex struggled to find a way to connect with others with autism and this led him to create Wrong Planet, which is where the online TV show began. "Autism Talk TV gives a unique look into the varied lives of individuals related to autism and provides insight for those of us already living with autism."

To watch episodes of Autism TV Talk please visit:

<http://www.autismtalk.tv/>

Inside this issue:

<i>Autism in Social Media</i>	1
<i>Fall Social Skills Program</i>	2
<i>Autism & Fun!!</i>	2
<i>A Well Developed IEP</i>	2
<i>Autism in the Media</i>	3
<i>Get Informed—Autism in Some Boys Linked to DNA</i>	3
<i>Check your Knowledge</i>	4

Social Skills Program— Fall SSP

This Fall Social Skills Program the children were involved in a lot of social interaction by singing and dancing with each other.



Trip to Southbrook Pumpkin Patch.

The children practiced *eye contact* and *appropriate greetings*, learning how to *start, maintain* and *end a basic conversation* with their peers. They then enjoyed a walk to the local playground and practiced sharing and appropriate play. In the second week skills for *identifying emotions* and *understanding and expressing emotions* were taught. The boys enjoyed a wagon ride and playing in the pumpkin fields at the Southbrook Pumpkin Patch. Week 3 brought learning about *identifying anger* and *functional ways to deal with anger and frustration*. After their lessons the children had a fun trip to Lionel's Pony Farm & Petting Zoo!

In the fourth week the children were taught *paying attention, listening skills* and *following instructions*. Later in

the day the boys each created a masterpiece at Whatnot's Craft & Ceramic Studio. The following week the focus was on *safety and consequences*, and *dealing with emergency situations*. This included learning about fire and street safety, and what to do if they get lost in a public place. In the afternoon they took a drive to Reptilia where they saw some amazing creatures! During the last week they learned how to *approach peers* and *make friends*. Then they boys were treated to board games, Duck Duck Goose, Musical Chairs and Hot Potato.

Much fun was had by the boys this Fall segment of SSP especially the dancing! We look forward to the seeing the boys again in our Winter SSP!!!

Autism & Fun!!!



A Well Developed IEP

Inclusion of a child with developmental delays into a classroom has its challenges. Research shows children with autism make little gains in a regular classroom without proper support. Given IBI in the classroom is impractical and often not part of the

school mandate, we collaborate with the school to identify and target your child's area of need. We then structure supported inclusion by developing an individualized plan targeting these areas, and implement

strategies to reduce interfering behaviours. With classroom teacher cooperation, classroom introduced interventions that benefit the whole class as well as your child, is also recommended. Targets range from following routine in classrooms, to attending, peer interaction and successful completion of classroom assignments in a group or independently.

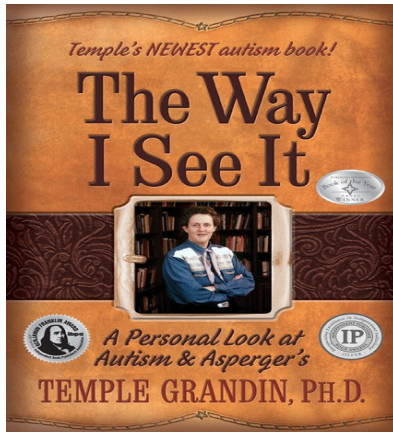


Autism in the Media

This year at the 62nd Emmy Awards autism was thrust into the

spotlight, with the HBO movie “Temple Grandin” winning 7 awards.

television programs, as well as writing a book of her own called *Emergence: Labeled Autistic.*



Temple Grandin was diagnosed with autism in 1950 and did not speak until she was three and a half years old. Growing up, and still now, Grandin says she “thinks in pictures,” and this helps her solve problems that her brain might otherwise miss. Grandin went on to receive her Ph.D. and has become a leading voice for autism, have been featured in many books and

Dr. Grandin is renowned for her work in developing better livestock-handling equipment, using her unique way of thinking. Temple Grandin is an advocate and speaks around the world on the subject of autism, as well as cattle handling. She has touched many lives and has given hope to those with autism.

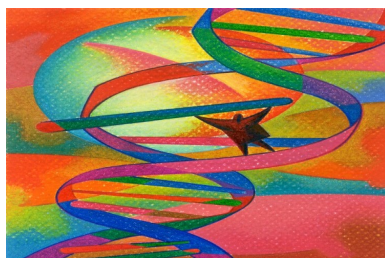
Get Informed → Autism in some boys linked to missing DNA

A recent study led by a team of Toronto scientists has brought to light one of the reasons why autism affects four times as many boys than girls. In the study they “discovered that males who have specific genetic alterations on their X-chromosome have a higher risk of developing autism.” It was found that the mutation of the PTCHD1 gene on the X-chromosome affected one per cent of the boys with autism, and this adds to the list of genes involved with autism.

The reason that boys are at higher risk is because “boys inherit one X-chromosome from their mother and one Y-chromosome from their father,” if the X-chromosome is missing the PTCHD1 or a similar DNA sequence than the boy will risk developing autism or an intellectual disability. However, it is different for girls because even if they are missing the PTCHD1 gene they carry a second X-chromosome, which protects them from autism. Although, autism could develop in later generations in those women's families. It is believed that the PTCHD1 gene plays an important role in delivering information to the cells during brain development, and the mutation could lead to disruption of this process and the onset of autism.

According to Autism Society Canada, there is an estimated 190,000 Canadians with autism, and this study analyzed the gene sequences of 2,000, along with other individuals with an intellectual disability and compared the DNA sequencing to those of healthy individuals. The mutations or absence of the PTCHD1 occurred in one per cent of males with autism, and was not present in the healthy male participants. As well, the sisters of the males that had the PTCHD1 alteration were not affected by autism symptoms.

This breakthrough can allow for children to be tested for this altered DNA, meaning they can be diagnosed at a younger age and be able to receive behavioural therapies sooner, which is more effective the earlier it begins.





Check us out !

www.endlesspossibilities.ca

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BEHAVIOUR INTERVENTION
& THERAPY SERVICES

Providing the building blocks for better learning!

***Servicing Children
in the Regions of:***

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... making footprints in the sand!

Check your Knowledge—

Answer the following questions to see how many you can answer.

1. What did Pavlov and Skinner do?
2. How often does the ABLLS need to be completed?
3. All providers, provide the same services?
4. When was Autism discovered?
5. How often does supervision need to occur?
6. What does DFO stand for?
7. What is the current statistics with regards to occurrence of Autism in boys?
8. What is Rett's?
9. True or False? Autism is treatable.
10. True or False? Autism is curable.

