



June



After School and Summer Education Programs- It's Not Too Late!

While our after school and summer education programs have already begun it's not too late for parents to sign their children up. In fact, parents can sign their child or children on a week-to-week basis to ensure that the family's scheduling needs are met. We have a trained staff of professionals ready to assist any child that walks through our doors whether a child is in need of speech/language or occupational therapy, tutoring services to ensure they are on track for the coming school year, or brain boosting programs to maximize their "academic edge". The summer months also provide our staff with the ability to give more exclusive one-on-one attention to each child enrolled in our programs.

We offer a full range of innovative enrichment programs such as Scientific Learning's Fast Forward products, Barton Reading and Spelling, Handwriting without Tears, and Lindamood Bell Learning Processes. Scientific Learning's Fast Forward family of products especially has a vast amount of clinical research and case studies documenting the effectiveness of the program for students from Kindergarten to High School. Our enrichment programs are a great way for Home School, Private School, and Public School parents to ensure their child's academic success over these next few summer months as well ensure a better quality of life for their child with the identified needs.

For more information please call our offices today to speak with one of our summer program advisors or go online to www.centerforcommunication.net and click on the homepage link about our summer program.

Ways to Partner with Home Schooled Children

The California Learning Connection can help home-school parents develop and implement individualized education programs for those children who have special learning needs. Our support can be tailored to help in academic, motor or speech/language areas so that parents feel their child's individual needs and learning style are being addressed through a home based IEP and curriculum modifications. Call for a free consultation or make an appointment to have your child assessed.



The Link between Motor Impairment and Communication

In light of emerging suggestions that language and motor deficits may co-occur, the literature on Specific Language Impairment (SLI) was reviewed to investigate the link between SLI and poor limb motor skill in children diagnosed with language impairments. The review is discussed in the article "Non-specific nature of specific language impairment: a review of the literature with regard to concomitant motor impairment" written by Elisabeth L. Hill and published in the *International Journal of Language Communication Disorders* in 2001. The results of the review indicate that there is a clear link between SLI and poor motor skill, suggesting that "SLI is not specific disorder of language but rather those children with SLI experience a broader range of difficulties, of which motor incoordination is one."

Thus a child who is a candidate for speech language therapy may also be a candidate for occupational therapy as well and vice versa. If you would like receive a copy of the article please email grow@clconnect.com or call our offices.

Neurogenic Stuttering

Neurogenic stuttering is a type of fluency disorder in which a person has difficulty in producing speech in a normal, smooth fashion. Individuals who experience fluency disorders may have speech that sounds fragmented or halting, with frequent interruptions as well as difficulty producing without struggle. Neurogenic stuttering typically appears following some sort of injury or disease to the central nervous system i.e. the brain and spinal cord. In the majority of cases, the injury or disease that causing the stuttering can be identified. In a small number of cases, however, an individual may show a form of speech disruption without any clear evidence of neurological damage.

Neurogenic stuttering can occur at any age; however, it appears more often in adulthood with the highest incidence occurring in older adults. This profile is different from developmental stuttering which is not generally seen as a result of brain damage and which most commonly appears in early childhood in children between 2 and 5 years of age. Neurogenic stuttering can be similar to and accompany other types of fluency disorders such as apraxia, aphasia, and dysarthria.

In order to accurately diagnose neurogenic stuttering it is important to consult with a speech-language pathologist who specializes in stuttering as well a physician. Treatment is often carried out by a speech-language pathologist working in conjunction with the clients' physician. For more information, please visit www.stutteringhelp.org or call our offices today.

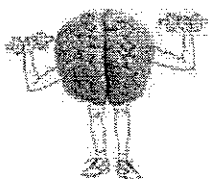


Brain Fitness Software Available

As an Authorized Provider of Posit Science, a software company that has developed neurocognitive training programs for older adults, California Learning Connection can help older adults maintain their cognitive abilities and quality of life as they age. One product, Brain Fitness Program Classic, is scientifically designed to speed up the brain's auditory processing, sharpen sound precision, strengthen auditory working memory, and more. During the largest trial of the Brain Fitness Program, the IMPACT study, participants experience an **average increase of 131% in auditory processing speed** and **gained 10 years improvement in memory**.

The second product, Insight, is scientifically designed to speed up the brain's visual processing and enlarge a person's useful field of view to help older adults drive safer. Many trial studies of Insight show that participants experience a **300% average increase in visual processing speed** and a **200% average increase in one's useful field of view**.

If you feel that you or a loved one could benefit from these products please call our offices today for more information and pricing. We have the products available both for use in our offices or in the comfort of your home.



Congratulations to Kayla Takeuchi!

Kayla Takeuchi, an autistic student who suffers from severe Apraxia of speech, has been unable to communicate most of her life. Recently, Kayla's situation has changed with the introduction of Facilitated Communication (FC) techniques by a FC Master Trainer, Janna Wood. Kayla has been able to attend regular high school Science and History classes without any special accommodations other than a facilitator lightly touching her shoulder. Kayla will even be a keynote speaker at the "Syracuse Summer Institute: Facilitated Communication, Inclusion and Independence, Crafting a New Narrative" national conference. FC is communication by typing with the help of a computer's speech synthesizer.

California Learning Connection has provided traditional therapy to Kayla since 1995. The staff here at California Learning Connection is overjoyed by Kayla's progress and we would like to congratulate Kayla for her outstanding accomplishments!

Janna Woods Presentation on Facilitated Communication

Janna Woods, Kayla's Master Trainer, will be presenting a course for interested parents and professionals on the social, emotional, and physical foundations for Facilitated Communication on July 30 from 2 to 4 pm at our offices. For more information please call our offices and speak with the Director, Kathryn Wage.

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If you are interested in receiving this newsletter by email, please send your request to: grow@clconnect.com. Please give your name, address, telephone number, and email address and put *newsletter* in the subject line.