



Level One PECS Training

Presented by Jill M. Waegenare, M.A., CCC-SLP

When: Friday, January 27, 2023 and Saturday, January 28, 2023

What time: From 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. with a one hour lunch and two 15 minute breaks (registration from 7:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.)

Where: ChildServe Training Center - Johnston

How long: 13 contact hours

Who can take the course: Speech Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Applied Behavioral Analysis, Autism Team, Medical Childcare, Childcare, teachers, other direct support supervisors or professional that use PECs in their daily job.



About this course:

This intensive 13-hour interactive workshop is designed to teach educational and caregiver teams the theory and protocol for the Picture Exchange Communication System® (PECS®). PECS® is an evidence-based practice based on Applied Behavior Analysis, typical language development and B.F. Skinner's Verbal Behavior. The workshop begins with an introduction to creating the most effective learning environment for implementing PECS via The Pyramid Approach to Education®. Included is a discussion of the limitations of teaching other communication modalities (speech, sign, SGD) as an initial communication strategy. Using presenter demonstrations, role-play opportunities and video examples, participants will gain a thorough understanding and hands-on experience of each of the six phases of PECS. Participants will leave the training with the skills necessary to teach spontaneous requesting, picture discrimination, sentence structure, attributes for expanding language, extended vocabulary, responding to questions and commenting. The workshop concludes with a review of the extensive literature supporting the PECS protocol as an evidence-based practice, tips to teach a child/young adult to accept being told, "No," and information related to transitioning from PECS to other communication modalities, such as speech, tablets with augmentative and alternative communication apps or speech generating devices. For those who wish to successfully teach children/young adults functional communication (whether you have used PECS for some time or are new to the field), this workshop is an essential part of your development.

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify children/young adults who will benefit from PECS
2. Describe the nine key components of creative effective learning environments using the Pyramid Approach to Education
3. Explain the differences between prerequisites, long-term outcomes for PECS and other modalities such as speech, sign language, picture pointing or speech generating devices
4. Identify strategies to create communication opportunities during routines and functional daily activities
5. Implement six phases of the PECS protocol
6. Name strategies for successfully saying, "No!"
7. Discuss the evidence for PECS and speech development
8. Examine the criteria for transitioning from PECS to other communication modalities

