We Can Help Your Child

If your child faces challenges caused by ……..

- Autism
- Sensory Disorders
- Difficulties With Math
- Difficulties with Reading
- Speech / Language Delays
- Apraxia or Dyspraxia
- Difficulty Paying Attention
- Impulse Control Issues
- ADD/ ADHD
- Brain Trauma / Injury
- Developmental Delays
- Difficulty Staying On Task
- Behavior Problems
- Extreme Sensitivity To Sound
- Fine and Gross Motor Challenges
- Poor Balance & Coordination

We are Michigan's premier new Sensory Integration & Learning Center. Started by parents who understand, first hand, the challenges of life with a special needs child; we are dedicated to providing the most effective therapies available and making them as affordable as possible. If your child is facing challenges in their development, life or learning, we can help. If you're looking for information and advice from someone who's been there, we can help. To learn more, or to schedule a visit for your child, please call—734-762-0332.

Great Expectations

Family Speech, Sensory Integration & Learning Center

31580 Schoolcraft Road
Livonia, MI 48150
Phone: 734-762-0332
www.MyGreatKid.com

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- ## Sensory Training and Education Program—S.T.E.P.

  Widely considered to be the most powerful foundational program for working with sensory processing problems. S.T.E.P. is a unique drug-free, non-cognitive multi-disciplinary approach that combines Vision Therapy (light), Vestibular Therapy (motion) and Auditory Therapy (music) to improve children's sensory and cognitive processing abilities. S.T.E.P. therapy is helpful for a wide variety of conditions including :

  - Sensory Processing
  - Attention and Focus
  - Control of Impulsivity
  - Sensory Integration Disorder
  - Visual Motor Skills
  - Motor Planning
  - Motor Coordination
  - Visual Tracking
  - BrainTrauma/Brain Injury

- ## Play Attention

  An innovative interactive learning program used to train the brain to overcome attention, concentration and focus challenges. A fun way for your child to play their way to increased success in and out of the classroom. Wearing a helmet that uses special sensors, the user controls the on-screen exercises with their mind. Attention states are monitored in real time using technology designed by NASA for training astronauts. Play Attention improves :

  - Attention & Focus
  - Visual Tracking
  - Discriminatory Processing
  - Numeric Concepts
  - Memory Skills
  - Sequencing

- ## The Brain Train & Sound Smarts

  A series of the most powerful interactive cognitive brain training programs ever published. Customizable for each individual's needs, this interactive computerized program promotes successful learning through repetition and traditional skill-building techniques. Brain Train's numerous programs helps to improve :

  - Attention and Focus
  - Conceptual / Memory Skills
  - Numeric Concepts
  - Short-Term Memory
  - Sequencing
  - Visual Motor Skills
  - Listening Skills
  - Reading Skills
  - Phonemic Awareness

- ## Reading Plus

  The Reading Plus System is unique in that it provides for the targeted development in the five critical elements of reading—Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Fluency, Vocabulary and Comprehension. Reading Plus makes use of advanced technology that has proven it's effectiveness in 1000's of schools nationwide.

- ## Speech & Language Therapy

  One on one speech and language therapy to address communication challenges ranging from minor articulation and pronunciation difficulties to communication challenges caused by Autism or Traumatic Brain Injuries.

- ## CranioSacral Therapy

  An amazingly effective yet gentle, hands-on therapy which improves the functioning of the central nervous system.

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Sensory Training and Education Program—S.T.E.P.

The Sensory Training and Education Program—S.T.E.P. is a specialized accelerated sensory integration therapy. Through the simultaneous stimulation of the three main sensory systems—the Visual System, the Vestibular system (balance) and the Auditory system — the S.T.E.P. is about re-educating the brain in how to properly receive, process and effectively integrate the sensory messages that it receives.

Why combine the three therapies together into one integrated approach ?

- Because the child's system is being fully engaged they are unable to tune out or ignore the stimulation process. By combining the visual, auditory and vestibular sensory systems in unison, it allows for faster more fully engaging "re-education" of the deficient aspects of the sensory systems while also simultaneously engaging the stronger sensory areas. This effect disallows the stronger aspects of the sensory system from overcompensating for the weaker parts.

Because the **S.T.E.P.** system is a non-cognitive learning experience, the participant does not have to think or actively engage in the process. This fact alone makes it possible to offer it to children as young as 2 1/2 years and to populations that may have difficulty participating in learning activities requiring cognitive processes.

THE THREE SENSORY INTERVENTIONS

Visual Evoked Response Therapy

Using a specially designed computerized light instrument the child will be shown a series of slow color pulses, at a rate of approximately six per minute. Throughout the course of the therapy cycle this will help to restore the visual system's receptivity to each part of the visual color spectrum:

Magenta—Ruby—Red—Yellow Green—Blue Green—Violet

Auditory Retraining Therapy

After a full listening profile is completed the child will receive a customized modulated music program, based on their individualized needs. The music is played over a pair of headphones that the client wears while going through the program.

Vestibular Stimulation Therapy

Using a specially designed motion table, the child lies down in a comfortable reclined position while the table progresses through a special cycle of gentle relaxing movements.

TESTIMONIAL:

"After completing the program, our 6 year-old has become a new person. Her self-esteem is growing daily. She is definitely more outgoing and assertive. It seems that a cloud has been lifted and she understands everyday tasks more, as well as school-related tasks. Before the program, she was crying daily at school when any new learning concept was introduced. Now she is picking up the whole learning process with ease. We are thrilled with the progress..." *- S.M — Learning Disability*

I cannot begin to tell you what a significant and profound effect your program has had on my son. He no longer just lays on the floor and stares. Now he runs around giggling. He started to become very demonstrative and gives hugs. He babbles and has started to use the word "me" to request things. For the first time in his little life his teachers are raving and he's making progress at school. He's starting to learn after two years of reports saying "goals not achieved" we are so jazzed! Thank you, thank you, thank you! *- M.L. — Autism*

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Play Attention

Based on the NASA software that helps Air Force pilots stay focused, **Play Attention** has been adapted into a fun way to triumph over attention, concentration and focus issues.

The **Play Attention** helmet with special sensors empowers you to actually control the **Play Attention** computer games, not with a joy stick or hand-held control, ***but with the mind alone***. While having fun, playing these games helps increase attention and improve behavior.

Paying attention to regular video games that you buy in the store isn't difficult. Even people with severe attention problems can focus on these... they often hyperfocus on these types of over-stimulating games for hours. Classrooms and normal day-in day-out environments are not nearly as stimulating.

This is when people who have attention and focusing difficulties have a problem -- paying attention to ordinary daily tasks. Play Attention's fun, easy to use computer "games" (or exercises) *specifically* utilize only moderately stimulating graphics so that everyone can learn to pay attention to, and stay focused on, any level of stimuli.

The user completes a series of exercises, similar to a video game, using **only their mind** to control it. They will see and hear immediate feedback to let them know how they're doing. This lets them know how they are progressing in increasing their memory, finishing the tasks they must complete, filtering out any distractions and staying focused. This process is known as Edufeedback.

Usually within a short period of time, the tendency towards calling out, fidgeting and impulsivity are reduced, while the ability to stay focused, overall comprehension and time-on-task skills are improved.

"I have been in Special Education for more than 20 years. This is the best scientifically based intervention that I have seen to address attention issues."

- Dr. Sam Dempsey, Executive Director Exceptional Children's Programs, Winston-Salem Forsyth Co. Schools

"This is the first behavior-based system that helps the child to understand and control both positive and negative habits on their own."

- Dr. Jean Guertin, Ph.D.; Educational Psychologist

"Play Attention proved to be a positive and reinforcing experience to reclaim the skills to learn."

- Dr. Smith Goodrum, Ph.D.; Clinical Psychologist

To Find Out More About How Play Attention can help your child or to schedule an assessment call 734-762-0332 today.

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Sound Smart

What is SoundSmart?

SoundSmart was designed by a clinical psychologist and a psychiatrist to help improve phonemic awareness, listening skills, working memory, mental processing speed, and self-control. These game-like brain-training exercises speak to the user in a realistic human voice, making the individual feel as if they are playing a real person who encourages, praises, and challenges them to do their best.

SoundSmart's Modules

SoundSmart consists of the following three modules:

SoundSmart Auditory Attention Coach provides drill and practice in following spoken instructions which gradually become more and more complex. With the additional **tracks,** the program can be used to help shape behavioral self-control as well as listening skills. It may also be used as an entertaining alphabet training game for children. The Attention Coach is a favorite with psychologists and teachers working with ADHD individuals to improve self-control and to develop the ability to maintain their attention through multi-step spoken instructions. Available in beginner (age 4+), intermediate (6+), and advanced levels(8+).

SoundSmart Math and Memory Coach (Levels A, 1-4) When used by a child, each level of this set of programs addresses the corresponding grade level of the elementary school math curriculum, grades K through 4. Adult users are presented with more challenging problems. The program helps develop working memory, mental math skills, and number concepts. With the addition of **behavioral tracks**, the Math and Memory Coach may be used to provide drill and practice in math skills, at the same time improving speed, self-control, patience, or auditory processing. The Math and Memory Coach is a wonderful way to help improve working memory in adults. It is also an ideal tool for math teachers to drill basic mental math skills and improve processing speed and listening skills.

Sound Discrimination Coach improves listening skills in people with language and reading problems by computerized time-tested, traditional methods used by speech language professionals to improve phonemic awareness. The program challenges the user with distractions, distortions in speech, background sounds, and changes in pitch in order to train him or her to listen well under all types of conditions. The Sound Discrimination Coach is an ideal phonemic awareness training tool for speech and language professionals or reading specialists. Available in beginner (age 6+), intermediate (8+), and advanced (10+) levels.

"SoundSmart really helped my son who is now at the high end of the autism spectrum. SoundSmart directly addressed and strengthened many core cognitive skills including memory, following directions, multi-sensory processing and overall improved ability in processing spoken language. My son loved the bingo format and especially liked the funny distracting noises that played during some of the games which strengthened his ability to concentrate even when distracted. The pictures slowly revealing themselves behind the bingo pieces provided additional stimulation through closure (the brain having to fill in the missing pieces of the picture). He always liked winning the "virtual" money for each game he completed. My son's auditory processing has greatly improved thanks to SoundSmart. Thank you for … such a wonderful program." — *Sue, Parent*

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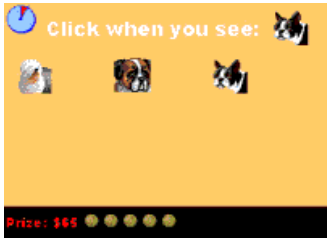
The Brain Train



The Brain Train Captain's Log consists of five different module components. Each is a stepping stone to the other and each addresses aspects of the learning process critical in all areas of life and are especially crucial for children in their educational development and progress.

Module 1: Attention Skills: Developmental—Develops the ability to attend and concentrate

Developmental is designed to train attention - general, alternating, focused and sustained visual and auditory processing speed, response inhibition, visual scanning, categorization, and working memory. Each of the eight programs in this module offers over eight hours of cognitive training. "Silver", "Gold" and "Diamond" levels provide over 340 different comprehensive, cognitive training exercises with appropriate presentations for kids, teenagers and adults. The exercises challenge the Player to remember the instructions and attune themselves to the proper stimuli while distracting sounds and images appear on screen. A multitude of options allow you to customize the exercises to meet the needs of each unique client.

Module 2: Visual Motor Skills—Trains eye/hand coordination, visual scanning, visual tracking and fine motor control

Always a favorite, the new Visual Motor Skills module now has beautiful, updated graphics and more exciting, entertaining tasks to keep the players motivated while they learn. These seven programs train eye/hand coordination, visual scanning, visual tracking, alternating and divided attention, fine motor control, response inhibition, and processing speed. As in the first module, Attention Skills Developmental, the programs offer appropriate presentations for kids, teenagers and adults. You can choose the option of having the program instructions spoken aloud by the computer. Following the built-in training protocols is easy, moving the player through the exercises until they have mastered each challenge, or you can customize the exercises to meet individual needs.

Module 3: Conceptual Skills—Helps train basic reasoning, memory and perceptual discrimination

Conceptual Skills consists of seven effective programs designed to train basic reasoning, short-term and working memory, perceptual discrimination, sequencing and categorization. As with the other Captain's Log modules, "Silver", "Gold" and "Diamond" levels provide appropriate presentations for children, teenagers and adults. The exercises can easily be customized to meet individual needs. Each program in Conceptual Skills provides more than 100 hours of systematic training for people of all ages (6 and up). This module is an excellent way to continue building on the skills developed in Attention Skills: Developmental, Visual Motor Skills, and Attention Skills: The Next Generation, or it can be purchased alone to enhance advanced attention and memory skills for peak performance.

Module 4: Numeric Concepts/Memory Skills — Trains basic mathematical concepts, memory, problem solving and organizational skills, and detailed reading comprehension.

Module 5: Attention Skills: The Next Generation — A continuation of Attention Skills: Developmental, designed to meet the needs of individuals able to work at higher levels.

In summary, I can strongly recommend the Captain's Log programs...they are some of the best programs available for patients needing to improve attention, concentration, reaction time, sequencing, fine motor ability and conceptual skills. - Bill Lynch, Ph.D. Cognitive Rehabilitation

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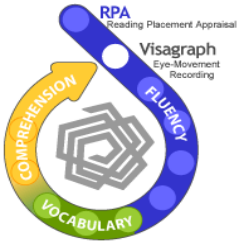
Reading Plus



Reading Plus® is a comprehensive, evidence based software solution for reading assessment and improvement that develops foundational fluency skills for students of all ages. It is the result of over 70 years of research and development in the area of reading improvement technology. Reading Plus® addresses all the elements of reading cited by the National Reading Panel including: Phonemic Awareness, Phonics, Vocabulary, Comprehension and what is most important, Fluency.

Who it's for

Appropriate for students in grade levels K through college and adults who are struggling with reading proficiency.

What it Does

Reading Plus® makes reading comfortable, productive and enjoyable. By addressing the foundational silent reading fluency skills required for students to become proficient, flexible readers, Reading Plus® prepares students of all ages with the essential skills they need for academic and vocational success.

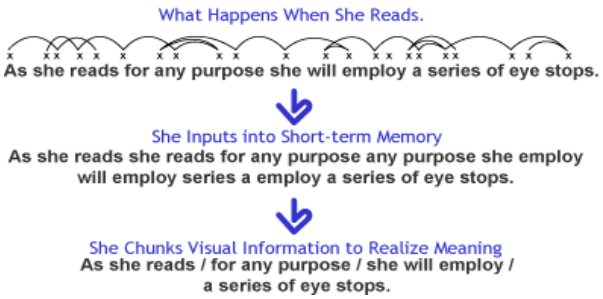
Comprehensive Skills Development

Beginning Readers	Established Readers	All Readers
Vocabulary Competence	Vocabulary Enhancement	Attention & Concentration
Visual Skill Readiness	Analytical Reading	Fluent Silent Reading
Phonemic Awareness	Study Skill Competence	Visual Functional Proficiency
Rapid Decoding	Preview Strategies	Perceptual Accuracy
Word Recognition Automaticity	Accelerated Comprehension	Visual Memory
Meaning Completion Competence		Contextual Analysis
		Retentive Comprehension

Why it works

While Reading Plus® develops essential vocabulary, analytical reading and comprehension skills, it is the fluency building activities that make the system unique and successful. The system has been designed to assess and develop visual, perceptual and cognitive skills that are essential for fluent silent reading at adequate rates with excellent comprehension. These skills are subliminal, and involve over 15 high speed visual and perceptual processes that interact from 3 to 5 times per second as the reader's eyes move along lines of print.

Example of a Struggling Reader:



Since these processes are subliminal, they cannot be directed by the teacher, nor controlled by a student. If students cannot perceive words accurately in a fraction of their usual eye pause time, they will inadvertently make multiple eye-stops to recognize each word. This delayed word recognition encourages visual wandering which consequently reduces comprehension. The silent reading fluency skills developed by Reading Plus® improve short term memory, literal understanding and the rate at which students can read comfortably with excellent comprehension.

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CranioSacral Therapy

CST was pioneered and developed by osteopathic physician John E. Upledger following extensive scientific studies from 1975 to 1983 at Michigan State University, where he served as a clinical researcher and Professor of Biomechanics.

CST is a gentle, hands-on method of evaluating and enhancing the functioning of a physiological body system called the craniosacral system - comprised of the membranes and cerebrospinal fluid that surround and protect the brain and spinal cord. Using a soft touch generally no greater than 5 grams, or about the weight of a nickel, practitioners release restrictions in the craniosacral system to improve the functioning of the central nervous system. By complementing the body's natural healing processes, CST is increasingly used as a preventive health measure for its ability to bolster resistance to disease, and is effective for a wide range of medical problems associated with pain and dysfunction, including:

- Autism
- Motor-Coordination Impairments
- Learning Disabilities
- Emotional Difficulties
- Traumatic Brain Injuries
- Emotional Difficulties
- Central Nervous System Disorders
- Orthopedic Problems
- Spinal Cord Injuries
- Scoliosis
- Infantile Disorders
- Chronic Fatigue
- Stress and Tension-Related Problems
- Neurovascular or Immune Disorders
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder

- ## Speech Therapy
  We will work with your child on a private one on one basis to improve their speech, language and basic communication skills. We do this by first creating an individualized plan, custom designed for your child to address their specific speech and communication challenges. We then employ a variety of different techniques, games and therapeutic approaches to improve your child's speech and communication skills, as well as, their confidence in their ability to communicate.

- ## Occupational Therapy
  By working on a one on one basis with your child we will address challenges that they may have in their fine motor, gross motor and sensory processing skills and abilities.

CALL TODAY IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FIND OUT MORE OR SCHEDULE A PRIVATE EVALUATION FOR YOUR CHILD— 734-762-0332

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Academic Tutoring

- Programs Customized To Your Child's Individual Needs
- Experienced Teachers and Learning Specialists
- Single and Small Group Instructional Settings
- Flexible Payment Plans
- After School, Weekend and Summer Programs Available
- Frequent Parent Updates and Conferences
- Children With Special Needs and I.E.P.'s Welcome

- Specialized Reading Instruction
- Math
- Science
- Vocabulary and Spelling
- Writing Composition
- Phonics
- Foreign Language
- Handwriting
- Social Skills
- Pre-school to Adult
- All Skill and Ability Levels

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Call Today To Find Out How We Can Help Your Child :

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