

Summer 2018 Weekly Social Cognitive Groups

Students are placed in homogeneous groups by age, grade, social presentation, and/or interests. Sessions focus on establishing awareness, practice of communication strategies in natural context social learning and carryover of skills to home, school, and community.

Social Learning Objectives:

- Build **Situational Awareness** and understand the impact of behaviors on others and self.
- Use and read **facial expressions**
- Purposeful **eye gaze** for “thinking about others”
- Monitor **body language** (self/others)
- **Language Organization**- purposeful use of social narrative for connecting with others and expressing oneself clearly and succinctly
- **Conversation Elements:**
Initiate, Maintain Topic, Topic Switching, Turn Taking, Pleasantries of Conversation, Monitor **Talk Time**, Close Conversation
- **Features of Speech:**
Rate, Tone, Volume, Articulation
- **Self Advocacy & Self Talk**
- Identify/appreciate/accept the **perspective** of another (Theory of Mind)
- **Problem Solving** – Collaborative & Proactive Solutions (Size of the Problem)
- **Emotional Regulation** – Zones of Regulation (Size of the Reaction)
- **Executive functioning** for social/academic success (Initiation, Attention, Planning, Organization, Task Completion, Working Memory, Mindfulness)
- Understanding **sensory** needs



Where Everyone Has a Voice

400 Hunnewell Street Needham, MA 02494 | phone 781-400-2605 | fax 781-400-2687 | email office@elycenter.com | web www.elycenter.com

The Ely Center, LLC is a speech and language center that focuses on **Social Cognitive Development**. Our Summer Intensive focuses on teaching, reinforcing and supporting each individual student's social cognition teaching, building on, & using strategies & tools to improve **Social Thinking®**, **executive function**, (including Mindfulness) & **sensory needs** via natural context learning.

Pragmatic language is the use of language in context. It falls under the speech and language umbrella. Self-regulation, is a feature of social cognition that must be present and well developed for pragmatic language to be functional.

The following list highlights the **therapeutic cornerstones** of our program:

- **Michelle Garcia Winner**, M.S. CCC-SLP, a speech language pathologist who is highly respected, and with whom Ely staff have trained, is the “guru” of pragmatic language and social cognition or as she has trademarked, **Social Thinking®**.
<https://www.socialthinking.com/>
- Our colleague, **Sara Ward**, M.S. CCC-SLP, is a highly trained speech language pathologist, whose expertise focuses on supporting **Executive Function skills**, including the following areas of self-regulation: attention to task completion, emotional development, planning, organizing, working memory, & the overall ability to be ready to learn. Ely staff have also participated in trainings with Sara and consider her a valued colleague. <https://www.efpractice.com>
- Our dear friend, **Maryellen Rooney Moreau**, M.S. CCC-SLP, who is the driving force behind the Story Grammar Marker®, a tool for developing language organization, has trained the Ely Center Staff in Story Grammar Development and serves as an ongoing consultant to our program. <http://mindwingconcepts.com/story-grammar-marker>



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- **Ross Greene's model of collaborative and proactive solutions** is used to support students' ability to assess their behavior as it relates to **situational awareness**. The basic premise of this technique is, "Kids do well if they can."
Observe and note a child's behavior saying, "I noticed _____," and then to ask, "What's up with that?" If the individual can state his/her thoughts on the behavior a discussion begins to map out the behavior, how it made others feel and how the individual feels. If the individual cannot state a thought or feeling provide a choice of 2 possibilities. These discussions become points of reference for future collaboration and proactive solutions (more positive decision making).
- **The Zones of Regulation** program is a curriculum that supports emotional regulation (i.e. **Size of the Reaction**) via a cognitive behavioral approach, developed by Leah M. Kypers, MA Ed. OTR/L. www.zonesofregulation.com
- **The Incredible 5 Point Scale, developed by Kari Dunn Buron** is a tool used for identifying social topics by levels of comfort, relating feelings and actions to a number on the scale and building awareness of expected behaviors and reactions. 1 – 3 on the scale is comfortable or manageable and 4 is creeping up to very problematic whereas a 5 is a disaster situation (**Size of the Problem**) <http://www.5pointscale.com/>

Although we will offer rolling admissions, please enroll early to assure your child a spot in the program.

For more information or to apply, please see our website www.elycenter.com or contact The Ely Center, LLC @ office@elycenter.com, 781-400-2605.