Organized Thinking: Dealing with the dreaded homework assignment and everything else a student wants to postpone!

WORKSHOP 2

DATE: 01 September 2013 (Sunday)
TIME: 9:00am to 5:00pm
VENUE: Theatrette @ 93, Toa Payoh Central Community Centre (Level 3), Singapore 319194

Michelle Garcia Winner, MA, CCC-‐SLP is a speech language pathologist who specializes in the treatment of students with social cognitive deficits. More than 15 years ago, Winner coined the term Social Thinking® and developed the related treatment approach for individuals with high-‐functioning Autism, Asperger’s and similar challenges. In 2008, she was awarded a Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for developing this treatment approach.

Michelle is part of the Social Thinking Training & Speakers’ Collaborative, a group of professionals specially trained in and actively practicing Social Thinking. The heart of Michelle’s work is illuminating the often elusive and intangible world of Social Thinking and developing practical strategies that can be easily used by parents, educators, and service providers across different environments.

The vast majority of students with social cognitive deficits have immense difficulty developing organizational skills to manage the increasing complex expectations of life in kindergarten, primary, secondary and into their adult years.

Organizational skills are a set of executive functioning skills that develop through experience and minimal prompting for neurotypical students. These same skills can be mammoth overwhelming tasks for even our most intellectually sharp students with social cognitive deficits. The impact of poor organizational skills is immense, affecting one’s outcome in school as well as at home and work. Weak organizational skills are poorly understood and often written off as pure laziness on the part of a “smart” student. Relatively little support is given to teach students to develop these critical skills that carry over into their future jobs and home-‐life as adults.

This workshop focuses on executive functioning skills and related practical strategies to track and tackle homework and other deadline based duties.

In this workshop we will explore two different types of organizational skills: static and dynamic. We will then break apart the concept of dynamic organizational skills into 10 concrete steps. Each step is vital towards the completion of what is considered a “homework assignment”; an educational strategy will be reviewed to accompany each step of the process. A large handout will be provided to support this teaching method.
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As with most of Michelle's teachings, she has activities to help the audience explore their own organized thinking to help them relate their own experiences to their student's and children's challenges. Michelle guides the audience to explore the key concepts and then provides explicit strategies to help teach these complex ideas!

While this workshop was designed to help understand students with social cognitive deficits it has proven to be relevant for all students and young adults. Mainstream teachers have embraced this information!

**Course Objectives:**

1. Increase awareness of participants own organizational structures so that they can better offer support to others.
2. Define the difference between static and dynamic organizational skills.
3. Define a strategy for helping students to explore their own motivation towards approaching complex tasks.
4. Describe the 10-step model to understand the deeper organizational skills and support each step with an instructional strategy.
5. Describe 2 strategies to help with executive function challenges.
6. Describe the importance of time prediction and how analog clocks teach this concept differently than digital clocks.

**Intended audiences:** This workshop has been enthusiastically received by Parents, Counselors, Psychologists, Speech Language Pathologists, Occupational Therapists, Mainstream School Teachers working in Primary and Secondary schools, Special Education Teachers working with high functioning children, Autism Specialists, Physicians, Social Workers, and other caregivers of students with Social Thinking Challenges.

**Population to be discussed:** School age students (mainstream and high functioning students in Special school) who have social, behavioral and communication difficulties, including but not limited to those related to high functioning autism, PDD-NOS, Asperger Syndrome, NLD, ADHD and undiagnosed challenges.

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To date Michelle has written or coauthored more than 20 books on Social Thinking. Her work is being applied not only to persons with higher functioning autism, Asperger’s Syndrome, ADD/ADHD, and related disabilities, but also more broadly to students in mainstream classrooms and to adults in vocational and professional settings in the U.S and abroad.

More recently, research published in the *Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders* supported Social Thinking vocabulary use with individuals with higher-functioning autism and Asperger’s. Michelle is internationally recognized as a thoughtful and prolific writer in the area of social thinking/social skills. She travels around the world speaking on a multitude of topics relating to Social Thinking, and repeatedly receives accolades for her educational, energetic, and enthusiastic workshop presentations.

Course Fee: S$321 (Individual rate)

Group Rate (New): S$305 each participant (for a group size of 5 or more)
S$290 each participant (for a group size of 10 or more)

Student Fee: $107 (Special discounted fee for students pursuing Certificate/Diploma/ and Bachelor degree courses).
All course fee is inclusive of 7% GST.
- Includes 2 tea breaks.
- Seats are limited.

To Register Click here.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

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