

Mouthing Off!!!

Jackson Therapy Partners

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November is Latin American Month:

- 48.4 million is the estimated Hispanic population of the U.S. as of July 1, 2009. The nation's largest ethnic or race minority is people of Hispanic origin.
- 132.8 million is the projected Hispanic population of the U.S. on July 1, 2050.
- 66% of Hispanic origin people in the U.S. have a Mexican background. 9% have a Puerto Rican background. 3.4% are Cuban. 3.4% are Salvadoran. 2.8% are Dominican. The remainder was of some other Central American, South American, or other Hispanic or Latino origin.
- 26% of children younger than 5 were Hispanic in the U.S. in 2009.

How does this relate to the field of Speech-Language Pathology? There are many areas across the U.S. that include speakers of as many as 100 or more languages. In 2001, Bracken and McCallum reported that at least 200 different languages are spoken in Chicago, IL; 140 in California; 80 in Palm Beach, FL; 67 in Tempe, AZ; and 60 in Plano, TX. In 2002, ASHA demographics indicate that only about 7% of the total membership is from a racial/ethnic minority background. Less than 6% of ASHA members identify themselves as bilingual or multilingual. So how do we serve this population? How can a Speech-Language Pathologist provide services to a patient when she does not understand the language of that culture? ASHA Principles of Ethics II, Rule B states that individuals shall engage in only those aspects of the profession that are within the scope of their competence, considering their level of education, training, and experience. So, we ethically cannot provide services, right? Well, ASHA Principles of Ethics I, Rule C states that individuals shall not discriminate in the delivery of

Travel Spots for November



- Alaska Bald Eagle Festival
- Big Pig Jig (Vienna, GA)
- Chitlin Strut (Salley, SC)
- Doo Dah Parade (Pasadena, CA)
- Giant Omelet Festival (Abbeville, LA)
- Las Vegas Comedy Festival (Las Vegas, NV)
- Macaroni Festival (Victoria, TX)
- Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade (New York, NY)
- National Scrabble Championship (Providence, RI)
- New Orleans Po-Boy Preservation Festival (New Orleans, LA)
- Quiet Festival (Ocean City, NJ)
- San Antonio New World Wine and Food Festival (San Antonio, TX)
- San Diego Bay Wine and Food Festival (San Diego, CA)
- World Championship Duck Calling Contest (Stuttgart, AR)

professional services. Assessment and therapy should be given in the patient's dominant language. If there is not a bilingual therapist on-site, the use of an interpreter and/or a translator may be essential. The ASHA website provides vital information on our servicing patients with language backgrounds that are different from our own. I found valuable information for my work setting when reading the ASHA Leader online article, from April 2, 2002, entitled Language Interpreters and Translators. If you have not already had a person on your caseload who speaks another language, you will eventually. Take the time now to read what ASHA says about handling this situation for your work setting. It is our professional responsibility to remain updated on providing services. There are many continuing education resources that discuss the growing Spanish population and how we are to serve them. I recall classes in graduate school regarding African-American dialect. I attended graduate school in Memphis, TN. We also had classes regarding Memphis dialect. It is important to be familiar with any cultural background that we are working with. It may be our responsibility to learn about the Spanish language so that we can effectively serve this growing population. It makes the difference in correctly identifying a disorder or understanding that this is typical speech or language behavior for this culture. .



Latin American Flags

Therapy Corner

What will happen in your therapy room in November?

November will not have a “product of the month.” November is filled with fun holidays to celebrate! Of course, you can use Thanksgiving as a theme for your therapy. You may want to view the Speaking of Speech website for ideas on what to do in therapy.

(http://www.speakingofspeech.com/Thematic_Materials.html) If you like to use the computer in therapy, visit

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~bryanquinn/Inservice2004.htm#Fall>

November 7 is Hug-A-Bear Day! How will you celebrate? Here are a few therapy ideas!

- Use counting bears to discuss colors, address quantity concepts, sort according to color.
- Watch Goldilocks and the Three Bears on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UaulRHrJGeU>
*This is my favorite, but there are other versions of the story on YouTube.
- Using the Three Bears story, discuss sizes (small, medium, large); discuss comparatives and superlatives (hottest, softest, etc.); discuss verbs (using -ing forms or past tense forms, such as, “she *ate* the porridge,” “she *slept* in the baby bear’s bed.”); have the patient retell the story using the appropriate sequence; target adjectives by describing items in the scene or identify adjectives when Goldilocks uses them; address inferencing by pausing the video and asking, “what do you think she will do next?” “Which one do you think Goldilocks will choose?”
- Have older patients look at a variety of bears and compare and contrast the bears. Examples of bears: polar bear, grizzly bear, black bear, panda bear, koala bear, teddy bear.
- Discuss the multiple meanings of the word “bear.”
- Discuss “bear” idioms, such as: grin and bear it; bear hug; bear down; more than one can bear; bear fruits; bear witness to; bear in mind.
- Eat Teddy Grahams as a snack.

Being a Speech-language Pathologist in Thailand

As I am writing this article, I am preparing to take a vacation to Thailand. I began wondering, “What would it be like to be a Speech-Language Pathologist in Thailand?” So I did a little research and I was surprised by what I found. I was reading an article that was published on April 23, 2009, about being a Speech-Language Pathologist in Thailand. At the time of the article, there were only 64 Speech Pathologists and 50 Audiologists in Thailand. With over 300,000 children having difficulty expressing themselves, there is a great demand for speech therapists. Since 1976, there has only been one institution (Mahidol University’s Department of Otolaryngology) to offer programs in speech. Previously, you were required to have a master’s degree; however, the master’s course could not produce enough graduates fast enough. To meet

the demand, educators decided to provide this program of study at a bachelor's degree level. There is a quota of 15 persons for each major (audiology and speech-language pathology). Application and tuition fees for the four-year course is equivalent to about \$1938.00!