



Speech and Language Programs

The Lewis School Speech and Language Programs

We are proud to offer state of the art speech and language programs as part of the curriculum at the Lewis School and Clinic. These programs are an integral part of the day-to-day routine of students. Each student's unique academic, communication, and social needs are addressed by the speech and language services we offer. This model of programming affords our students a greater diversity of educational opportunity in order to develop and realize their learning potential.

The Lewis School Speech and Language Department provides comprehensive programs utilizing multi sensory instructional models in a variety of settings. Our team of speech-language pathologists collaborates with classroom teachers to ensure communication goals are implemented throughout the school day.

Classroom-based instruction is one program offered to address the communication needs of each student. This program provides opportunities to monitor and evaluate student performance, shape communication skills in an academic setting, and ensure carryover and maintenance of newly acquired skills.

Small group speech and language therapy is also provided at The Lewis School and may include direct instruction to improve:

- Receptive and expressive language
- Auditory and language processing
- Direction following
- Attention to task
- Working memory/comprehension
- Retention/selective recall
- Critical thinking
- Organization
- Sequencing
- Problem solving
- Social interaction
- Speech production/fluency
- Articulation

We recognize social skills greatly impact our ability to be successful and effective communicators at school, in the home and in the community. To address this need, the Speech and Language Department has developed two additional programs. Selected Lower School students participate in a weekly “**Lunch Bunch**” program. This is an opportunity for students to develop conversational skills in a natural setting with their peers. **Café Club** is a program that has been developed to further our older students’ ability to utilize appropriate social skills off campus at a local café.

SOAR, our summer speech and language camp, provides students with the opportunity to enrich their communication skills in a theme based multi sensory environment. **SOAR** is a language enrichment program offered to both Lewis School students and to students from the surrounding communities.

Afternoon Speech and Language Programs

As part of our ongoing commitment to excellence, The Lewis School Afternoon Speech and Language Program offers innovative and research based programs that contribute to and enhance our multi sensory educational programming.

Our current afternoon speech and language programs include:

“Culture Club”:

This program will expose students to cooking, conversation, and art. The students participate in creating and sampling a tasting menu from various regions across Europe and the United States. Each student is instructed to: identify a theme for each meal, set a table with a motif, prepare various dishes, converse with their peers and staff, and return the work environment to its previous state. Students will also learn to follow verbal and visual directions, give directions to others, initiate and participate in conversation, and complete their assigned responsibilities in the designated time.

“Ready for the Weekend”:

This program is designed for students who would benefit from a home study management environment once a week. Each session will start with an opportunity to address social skills, money management, and time management at the library café. Our students will receive direct instruction to improve their ability to: generate a study plan, organize home study materials, initiate a task by following a written plan, utilize a date book or calendar to track projects and

home study assignments, monitor their performance, and utilize library resources when appropriate to complete assignments.

“Tune Me In”:

This program focuses upon both auditory and language processing. Students will develop skills that will improve their ability to spell, read, and process language. They will strengthen their ability to process information in noise and increase their ability to retain and remember information. Strategies to improve the processing of language and word retrieval will also be focused upon. Students will learn methods to attach meaning to what they hear. Finally, students will be encouraged to apply the strategies taught to facilitate their success as students.

“Hold That Thought”:

This program will focus upon improving memory skills and the retention of information. Students will learn how to organize and order information through association and word relationships to improve their ability to remember concepts they have been taught. They will participate in gross motor and fine motor tasks to develop their planning, organizing, and sequencing abilities.

“Interactive Metronome”:

This program is a structured, computer based training program developed to improve the processing abilities that affect attention, motor planning and sequencing. Students learn to synchronize hand and foot movements to a reference tone presented through headphones. Each student’s program is individualized based upon their ability to respond to the presented tasks. Interactive Metronome is beneficial for students with motor planning and sequencing problems, attention deficit, and processing difficulties.

These afternoon programs are available to students currently attending The Lewis School as well as students in surrounding communities. If you would like further information regarding these programs or the other speech and language services offered at The Lewis School, please contact the Speech and Language Department.