

Pacific Coast Speech Services, Inc.
November 2011 Newsletter

With ASHA and the holidays right around the corner, we are all about time management and finding tools for stress reduction this season. With that goal in mind, here's some ideas, websites and jokes to lighten your load.



Featured Personal iPad Application: ZITE

Those fortunate enough to have iPads are growing in number. Our previous newsletter addressed [great work related apps for school based speech pathologists](#). However, we know you have other roles and interests beyond speech pathology!!! Zite, www.zite.com, is our favorite application for quick bits of time when you want a personalized magazine to read. Zite delivers articles in "sections" you choose (travel, psychology, cooking, special education) within a newspaper type format. When you touch the lead, the full article appears. As you use the application, Zite quickly gets "smarter" about what you would like to see. Great for a moment of peace in your busy day!



Featured Website: www.teacherspayteachers.com

ARAGH! I have two IEPs today, a booked therapy schedule, and I STILL haven't got a good idea for my group!!!! We are all challenging ourselves to both align closer with curriculum and find new ways to teach to our goals. This is a website where teachers post their great ideas in a downloadable form, making them instantly available. Each activity/idea is low cost or free, and all are complete and ready to use/save on your PC.

We are extremely impressed with the quality and variety of the materials we have found, and are encouraged that the majority of the money we pay goes directly back to the writer. This week, we needed a new idea for a mixed artic/language pullout group with a social skills component. We grazed this site by subject/top sellers (ours is Rachel Lynette) and found an awesome "Get to Know You" Jenga game that will address the goals of all four kids! We already owned a Jenga game, so all we had to do was print out the idea. The site recently added a section directly addressing speech therapy, but we still prefer to review the materials of the top sellers by grade level for material. Perhaps this summer some of us will post some of our good ideas and get some extra cash!



Featured Website: Pinterest

Need some inspiration? Pinterest is a virtual bulletin board website, where you can "pin" your favorite ideas to bulletin boards and browse boards created by other people who share your interests. Type a topic in the search bar ("Thanksgiving craft" or "phonics") and numerous inch-square pictures will pop up. Hit a square and you are directed to the original website with the description or directions, or you can simply "repin" the idea to your own board for future reference.

If you notice someone whose ideas tickle your fancy (we happen to like Fran Richardson) you can "follow" them and their new pins will pop up when you log in. Sample idea for use: Use your board with a variety of students for articulation; compare/contrast; descriptive language; expressing opinions; even social thinking. Boards are unlimited and most people have 6 - 12 different clipboards on a variety of topics such as "Things that Make Me Laugh" or "Holiday Crafts." One caveat is that Pinterest is very popular, and you must be "invited" to join and create boards. I simply put a note on my Facebook account, and had an "invitation" in 5 minutes. It's really fun to see who you know with boards, and follow them - maybe you will start a trend at your school!



Let's Hear it for ASHA!!

The annual ASHA Convention is in San Diego this month, and our bags are packed! With fantastic presenters like Edythe Strand, Tim Kowalski, Nina Reeves and Michelle Garcia Winner, how can you go wrong? We won't have a booth this year, but instead will be attending the California reception and learning from the masters of our profession over the course of the convention. We hope to see you there!

[Convention schedule at a glance](#)

[Program Book](#)

Standing Ovation to Andrea Walker/SUCSESS Project



As some of you know, the county wide SUCSESS project has effectively been disbanded in Orange County due to economic challenges. This project has been a labor of love for its director, Andrea Walker, since its inception 13 years ago, and has changed the landscape of how autism and social thinking disorders are approached by parents, teachers, and community members. Here are some comments on Andrea's influence from people you know:

From Michelle Garcia Winner/Founder of Social Thinking:

...the thousands of training hours Andrea has coordinated for so many, the number of parents and teachers she has hugged in an embrace of understanding, the programs she helped to initiate and the many professional trainers she connected.... Without Andrea, I am not sure what path my career would have taken.

From Nancy Melgares, Former Director of Special Education, Irvine Unified; Program Administrator OCDE: We all owe Andrea Walker a debt of gratitude...Andrea's ability to scaffold the wide arena of best practices and create a community of learners is a legacy that continues into the future.

From Lisa Chatter, Speech Pathologist and Autism Cohort Participant: The professional training I received via the SUCSESS project profoundly changed the way I do business. On behalf of the students & families whose lives are immeasurably improved, I am grateful to Andrea Walker for her insight, wisdom, and for being so nice that these amazing speakers agreed to return to O.C. year after year.

How has the SUCSESS project influenced your life and practice? We would love to collect your comments and pass them on to Andrea as a very small gesture of thanks from our community. All you have to do is hit reply on this e-mail or respond to pacificcoastspeech@earthlink.com and we will make sure she receives your thanks!



AVAILABLE CONTRACTED POSITIONS

Things are hopping here in Southern California! Pacific Coast Speech Services places clinicians in all of Orange County, as well as the edges of San Diego, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Riverside Counties.

Districts-Need a clinician to take the stress off your employees and keep you compliant? SLPs-Looking for an ethical contracting company run by local SLPs who are passionate about you AND the districts they serve? Call us, 714-731-6630, [apply by clicking this link](#), or simply hit reply to this newsletter.

At the moment, our most pressing SLP needs are along the 91/55 freeway, along the 22 freeway, and a maternity leave in south Orange County. We would love to chat with you about your needs!



Jokes for Kids

An extra helping of jokes! Less calories than an extra helping at Thanksgiving dinner!

What dog loves to take baths?

A Shampoole!

Where did the spaghetti go to dance?

The Meat Ball!

Why did the turkey cross the road?

To get away from the pilgrims!

What do cats eat for breakfast?

Mice Krispies!

What do you say when you see an angel?

"Halo!"

What do you get when you cross a turtle with a porcupine?

A slow poke!

What's a pirate's favorite kind of car?

An Arrr V!

What did the frog get for dinner?

French flies and a croak.

What type of food does a cheetah eat?

Fast food.

What do you call a dinosaur with one eye?

A do-you-think-he-sawr-us? (helps to add a NY accent!)

How did the farmer fix his jeans?

With a cabbage patch.

What happened when the teacher tied all the kids shoe laces together?

They had a class trip!