Effect of Social Skills Training Interventions on Increasing Social Competencies Among Children with Pervasive Developmental Disorder

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Real-World Experience

Level I Fieldwork: Summit Academy

Level II Fieldwork: The Academy at Saint Andrews
Which interventions are shown to be effective in increasing social skills and social competence in children with Autism Spectrum Disorder and/or Not-Otherwise-Specified Pervasive Development Disorder?
Body of evidence

Social skills training

- Relationship-based Therapy
- Motor-based Therapy
- Role playing

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3RjRZ9jMfso
Groups

Structured Play

Social Stories

Parent Training

Use of Animals
Consider this . . . .

Small sample sizes

Studying a spectrum disorder creates unique issues (i.e. levels of functioning)

Levels of evidence- Mostly Level III

Lack of real-world testing

Few standardized outcome measures for PDD populations
• Effective social skill programs can increase social participation

• Improved school functioning

• Reduce negative behaviors

• Supports the consultative model
Implications for Practice

• Develop Social Stories

• Create structured social skills programs

• Utilize group settings to aid in reinforcement and generalization of skills

• Find ways to increase client's motivation and attention to task to improve outcomes


