

Cyndi Elliott

Authenticity, Experience & Humor



Cyndi Elliott is a professional speaker, author of *I See ABILITY!*, artist, occupational therapist and sister. Her brother, David, is a talented man who has Down syndrome. Cyndi's 20-plus years of being a pediatric occupational therapist, as well as more than 40 years as David's sister, has given her unique insights that will assist you with building rapport and teamwork with families. Cyndi creatively combines her compassion as a sibling with her facilitation skills as an occupational therapist, providing you with techniques and tools that are reassuring, ability-affirming and meet children's needs.

Cyndi uses her authenticity and real-life experiences to motivate and inspire the use of a child's inherent abilities in the classroom, clinic or home. She leaves her audiences empowered with new techniques, motivated to see ability and to roll up their sleeves. Cyndi is renowned for her delightful sense of humor and the playfulness she brings to her presentations, which begin with the statement, *"I was raised by a boy with Down syndrome."*

TOPICS:

Sensory Processing: It Does Make Sense

Cyndi will shed light on why and how your students/children respond to sensory stimulation. Some may resist certain activities and actions, while others may seek out those same activities and actions. Cyndi provides an understanding of the 3 sensory systems (vestibular, proprioception and tactile) that make up the sensory processing system. If a teacher/parent/caregiver can understand why a child displays sensory characteristics, they can immediately provide practical solutions and assistance. Cyndi's ability to instill knowledge of this complex subject into simple explanations will provide you with understanding and solutions you can put to use the next day.

What you will learn from Cyndi:

- A practical knowledge of the three sensory systems beyond the common five
- A down to earth understanding of what the child is experiencing within these often overlooked and misunderstood systems
- Knowing how to incorporate functional sensory input into current routines
- Increased ability to respond to the child's guidance on filling their cup for sensory development
- A template to help identify a child's key strengths while planning a program



Fine Motor Skills: Let Me Lend You a Hand

Cyndi covers fine motor development in preschool/school routines and tasks. This training covers these topics and more: understanding scissor use progression, how to support the development of a dominant hand and a mature (tripod) pencil grasp, fun ways to increase shoulder and trunk strength (which naturally increase fine motor skills), activities to increase fine motor and eye-hand coordination, supportive table/seat positioning, and how to incorporate functional tasks throughout your daily routine that naturally increase fine motor/visual motor development.

Cyndi breaks down the stages of these tasks to increase your knowledge and understanding while providing ideas and solutions to place within the schedules and routines you already have in place. The solutions are adapted for the best possible independence level in children therefore increasing feelings of competence, mastery and motivation.

What you will learn from Cyndi:

- A practical knowledge of fine motor development processes
- A breakdown of the steps of supporting each stage of fine motor skill
- Increased knowledge of how to incorporate fine motor/visual motor tasks and activities into current routines
- Increased ability to recognize naturally occurring functional tasks that support fine motor development every day



"Cyndi's sensory solution was like a myth made reality, because the solution started working right away, and all but solved the eating issue within weeks. She is truly a miracle worker." ~Cate Koskey, Special Education Teacher, Hooper Bay, Alaska

"I recently took part in a full day sensory training provided by Cyndi Elliott. The best part is always getting tools that we can use in the classroom; Cyndi always makes sure they are fun and attractive for children. I also like how these ideas can be implemented with every child in the classroom and not just one." ~Roberta Asencio, Lead Teacher, Salish Kootenai College Childcare Center, Pablo, Montana

AUTHOR OF "I SEE ABILITY!"



Explore the different abilities of people through this artful expression created by Cyndi. This bold, colorful picture book utilizes a fresh and simple approach to inspire the reader to explore their views of the abilities of people. The focus is directed at the talents and abilities of the characters versus the often overemphasized condition or diagnosis that they have. This book will inspire dialogue of a fresh nature and will inspire readers of all ages to think, "I See ABILITY!"

Cyndi has been featured on the following television station and in publications:



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