

# End of the Year



Linking People and Resources

REGION 5 T/TAC

# Regional Wrap-Up

As IEP time approaches and the school year begins to wind down, we want to inform you that this is our last newsletter for the 2002-2003 school year. We hope you have found the information in this and previous newsletters to be interesting and informative. Please pay particular attention in this newsletter to our remaining workshops and summer opportunities to take advantage of further professional development. Also, by now you should have received an end of year survey. Please take a few minutes to complete it and return it to us. Your comments and suggestions provide the T/TAC staff with valuable information to use when we plan training events for the next school year.

We hope this year has been an enriching and exciting one for you; one in which you, as well as your students, have learned. The T/TAC will be open during the summer months, but if planning to visit, please call beforehand as staff will be enjoying some much deserved vacation time, just as you will. Have a great summer!

Reid, Cheryl, Debbie, Melinda, Gina, Tony, Boon, Brenda, Sally, Linda, Judy, & Jeannie

## Check Your Shelves...

If you have overdue T/TAC library items, please return them to the office via mail (T/TAC, MSC 9002, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA 22807) or bring them to the office located at Blue Ridge Hall, 601 University Blvd, Harrisonburg (across from Costco, next to Ron Martin Appliance).

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Remember, return your end of year survey. Your input is important to us.

## Autism Series II, Part III: Visual Strategies

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Sally Chappel & Brenda Fogus,  
JMU T/TAC & Linda Oggel,  
VCU T/TAC

Tuesday, April 29  
8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Albemarle Resource Center,  
Charlottesville

Cost: \$25.00—Includes Snacks,  
Lunch & Materials

*Limited to 40 Participants*

Registration Deadline: April 22

This is the third of a three part series that assists the professional and/or paraprofessional in techniques to use when teaching

students with autism spectrum disorder or Asperger syndrome. It is designed for those who have an understanding of this field and a good knowledge of the disability.

Discover effective "structured teaching" strategies. Learn to set up a visual environment, develop daily schedules, and provide structured tasks to increase student success and independence. Become skilled in teaching the students to use the visual strategies that have been

specially designed to meet their needs. Create materials so that students can look at tasks and visually answer: What do I have to do? How much do I have to do? When will I be finished? and What do I do next?



## Making It Work: FBA/BIP Implementation in Virginia Schools

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With Ronald Brumleve, Sharon England, and Darrel Mason  
April 8, 2003, 8:30am—4:00pm  
John Tyler Community College

Fee: \$25.00

Registration Deadline: March 28, 2003

This workshop is co-sponsored by the Virginia Department of Education and the Statewide Training/Technical Assistance Centers at VCU, JMU, GMU, ODU, Radford, and W&M.

The training will focus on functional behavior assessment/behavior intervention plans.

Contact: Cheryl Bishop,  
[cebishop@vcu.edu](mailto:cebishop@vcu.edu)

## Inclusive Planning for Students with Autism and Asperger Syndrome

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April 29 - 30, 2003  
Holiday Inn Koger Center South,  
Midlothian, VA

Fee: \$125.00 for this two day training.

Pre-registration is required.

Both days include refreshments and lunches.

This workshop is for educators and parents who want to develop a broader understanding of students with PDD and Asperger syndrome, and develop educational plans for inclusive school settings. The unique challenges associated with PDD and Asperger syndrome require educators

in public schools to organize four areas of support: 1) academic, 2) behavioral, 3) social, and 4) emotional.

For additional information call 1-800-649-8481 or [information@autismva.org](mailto:information@autismva.org)

## Make It– Take It

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Spend some uninterrupted time making materials to use in your classroom with students with special needs. These sessions are open to teachers, paraprofessionals, and therapists. Both sessions allow participants the opportunity to complete projects they've started, to get ideas for new materials, and to get ideas for future projects. There is no registration fee; however, participants must pre-register and will be sent a list after registering of items needed (such as scissors, glue, etc.) to make

the projects. These sessions are fun-filled and promise to be one of your favorite times spent

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REGISTRATION DEADLINE  
MAY 8 FOR MAY 15 SESSION  
MAY 22 FOR MAY 29 SESSION

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making materials! The emphasis for the materials this year is PRACTICAL tools for communication.

Conference Dates:

Thursday, May 15, 2003  
Time 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
Mary Switzer Building  
WWRC  
Fishersville, VA.

OR

Thursday, May 29, 2003  
Time 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
Hutcherson Early Learning Center  
Lynchburg, VA.

## Share the Joy: Success in Schools for All.

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June 16-18

Share the Joy: Success in Schools for All.

A Southwest Virginia Summer Institute on Special Education in High Poverty Schools.

Radford University.

Registration fee: \$90

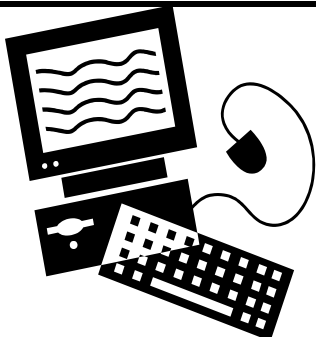
(\$60 for paraprofessionals).

Contact:

Katie Reed at 877.544.1918 for more information.

## Making the Connection: Assistive Technology and Augmentative Communication.

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June 26-27

Making the Connection: Assistive Technology and Augmentative Communication.  
Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center, Roanoke.

Sponsored by T/TAC at VA Tech.

Contact:

Glenna Gustafson <gsgustaf@vt.edu> or  
Lora Kingma <lkingma@vt.edu> at 540.231.5167 for more information.

## What Works!

The What Works Clearinghouse (WWC) is a project of the US Department of Education's Institute of Education Sciences and was established to put solid evidence from high-quality scientific research into the hands of educators, policymakers, and the public so they may make better choices about programs and practices.

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 calls for the use of scientifically based research as the foundation for many programs and for classroom instruction. In response, the WWC is presently developing standards and other tools needed to conduct reviews of existing research and will synthesize its findings in evidence reports for an online database. Contact the What Works Clearinghouse at 2277 Research Blvd., 6M, Rockville, MD 20850, at 1.866.WWC.9799 or on the Web at [www.w-w-c.org](http://www.w-w-c.org)

(from The Achiever, Vol. 2(5), March 15, 2003, US Dept. of Education)

Summer is a great time to sit back, relax, and surf the web for information that you might not have time to review during the school year. The following are websites of a few of the divisions of the Council for Exceptional Children. In addition to divisional information, they all have topical information and links to other resources.

**[www.casecec.org](http://www.casecec.org)**

Council of Administrators of Special Education

**[www.ccdb.net](http://www.ccdb.net)**

Council for Children with Behavioral Disorders

**[www.dcdt.org](http://www.dcdt.org)**

Division on Career Development and Transition

**[www.dddcec.org](http://www.dddcec.org)**

Division on Developmental Disabilities

**[www.dec-sped.org](http://www.dec-sped.org)**

Division for Early Childhood

**[www.cec.sped.org/intl](http://www.cec.sped.org/intl)**

Division of International Special Education and Services

**Other sites of interest:**

**[www.nieer.org](http://www.nieer.org)**

National Institute for Early Education Research supports early childhood education initiatives by providing objective, nonpartisan information based on research. The Institute offers independent research-based advice and technical assistance to four primary groups: policy makers, journalists, researchers, and educators.

**[www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org)**

The National Board for Professional Teaching Standards needs assessors to evaluate candidate materials for special educators seeking NBPTS certification. Contact [www.nbpts.org](http://www.nbpts.org) or 800.228.3224 for information.

**Check Us Out!**  
**<http://web.jmu.edu/ttac>**