

Evening Workshop - via Zoom

Presented By: Kidz Conference Services

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Navigating Puberty with Students with Developmental Disabilities Pre-Pubescence Through Late Adolescence (ages 8 - 21+)

March 20, 2024 ♦ 4:30pm – 7:45 pm ♦ Live via Zoom

Presenter: Erinkelly Connell, MS Ed, LBA BCBA



Audience: Teachers School Leaders Social Workers Speech/Language Pathologists LMHCs Psychologists BCBA/BCaBAs
Age Range: Elementary Middle School High School **Course Level/Learning Methods:** Intermediate; Lecture

Adolescence is the emotional and social transition between childhood and adulthood that takes place between the ages of 10-24. During this time, youngsters experience hormonal and biological developments in the body that can lead to emotional and behavioral changes. Navigating this with children with special needs can be especially challenging to school personnel and parents.

This session will address students with mild to severe developmental disorders such as autism, cognitive delays, and communication deficits. Participants will learn strategies to increase self-care and hygiene in children going through puberty. They will learn how to teach students the following in both classroom/ related service settings:

- understanding behaviors that are appropriate in public vs. private settings (e.g., time and place)
- stranger-danger
- understanding romantic feelings, relationships, and relationship boundaries
- the right to say "NO"
- prerequisite skills for students to be able to articulate their feelings and needs in this regard (e.g., body part identification, pain attenuation, reporting inappropriate interactions)
- self-regulation strategies: how to generalize into other settings and help parents to implement at home will also be discussed.

The session will also cover strategies for managing challenging behaviors that transpire during puberty and how to increase self-esteem. Case scenarios will be presented and discussed.

Learner Objectives - As a result of this activity, participant will be able to:

- Discuss how to instruct students in topics pertaining to puberty
- Discuss strategies for managing challenging behaviors and improving self-esteem
- Identify strategies to share with parents related to puberty related skills, behaviors, and problem areas

Agenda

- Preparing for Puberty (60 minutes)
- Break (15 minutes)
- Instructing Student on Puberty-Related Topics (60 minutes)
- Strategies to Manage Behavior (60 minutes)

Biographical Information:

Erinkelly Connell, MS Ed, LBA BCBA is an employee of Family of Kidz, working as a Clinical Supervisor to behavior consultants in Suffolk County schools. She also provides school-based behavior consultation, direct behavior intervention services, BCBA supervision, provides parent training, and runs staff round tables. Ms. Connell has founded and runs various community groups that support both neurotypical and neurodiverse students in her local community. Prior to Kidz, she was a special education teacher working with students diagnosed with Autism. **DISCLOSURE INFORMATION: Financial:** Erinkelly Connell is an employee of Family of Kidz, our parent organization. This is receiving a speaker's fees for presenting this session. **Non-financial:** There are no other non-financial disclosures.

Register Online: www.familyofkidz.com \$75 non-Kidz staff \$65 Family of Kidz staff Kidz staff registration discount is applicable only to those with at least one active case through our agency. Discounts may be available – check the website for information.

Info or Special Accommodations: Tesa conferences@familyofkidz.com Should you require a reasonable accommodation to attend, all such requests must be received no less than four weeks prior to the date.

Refund Policy: All cancellations will be subject to the handling fee noted. Refund/Cancellation requests must be received by mail/e-mail at least 10 calendar days prior to the session date or the full amount will be charged. Full refunds will be given if the workshop is cancelled due to weather or other unforeseen circumstances. **Handling Fee: \$15**

For Certificates of Attendance and CEUs - You must arrive on time, stay for the entire session, and submit a completed Evaluation Form.

CEUs / CPDs Available

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