



Thoughts about the Pyramid Model

Six members of the Part B (3-5 years) staff attended training on the Pyramid Model in Clearwater, Florida in March. Following are their thoughts about the program and what the Pyramid Model will mean in terms of all the children it will serve.

"We want to help ensure that all children, even those with the most challenging behaviors, have access to ongoing positive relationships. We need to help kids recognize, label and understand feelings in themselves and others. We need to remember to help typical peers be persistent with their social behaviors while peers with special needs are becoming better at their social skills."

~Sara, Early Childhood Special Educator

"What I like about the Pyramid Model is how it works on peer interaction and social skills. It builds positive self-esteem and peer friendships. Teaching the kids how to communicate with each other appropriately helps with frustration and anger that can cause challenging behaviors."

~ Marcia, Co-Teacher

The Pyramid Model – "It is comprehensive; research based and will be very user friendly!"

~ Mandy, Part B Coordinator

"I like that the Pyramid Model looks at the design of the classrooms and the programs, as well as building a strong social/emotional foundation for children. It is focusing more on relationships and WHY a behavior is happening and what we can do to prevent it (or work through it), not just looking at the behavior and what to do now that a behavior is occurring. It's about providing children a comprehensive way to deal with emotions and promoting the development of friendship skills with peers. I like how the Pyramid involves families every step of the way."

~Jessica, Early Childhood Special Educator

"I think that the most comforting aspect is that we are already applying some of the activities, program and ideas that were presented, so it's not like we are having to learn everything over, we are just tweaking what we already know. I hope that all of the information and ideas are as "miraculous" as all of our presenters portrayed them to be, because at times, we need miracles!"

~ Mandy, Early Childhood Teacher

"The greatest gift we can give the preschool child is routine," shared by an administrator from Pennsylvania. The Pyramid Model is the foundation for the child to develop self-regulation and social skills. When these skills are developed and fostered, the child has greater potential to learn, has better self-esteem and has a greater opportunity to achieve in his or her world."

~ Lynn, Developmental Guidance Counselor