



# Educational Conference

## **BUILDING CONVERSATIONAL COMPETENCE FOR CHILDREN WITH AUTISM: SCRIPTS AND SCRIPT FADING**

Patricia J. Krantz, Ph.D. and Lynn E. McClannahan, Ph.D.  
Princeton Child Development Institute

**Friday, October 17, 2008**

**Classics V Banquet Center**

**2425 Niagara Falls Boulevard Amherst, NY 14228**

### **Conference Schedule:**

8:00— 9:00 — Registration  
9:00—10:30 — Part I - What are scripts  
and how scripts have worked to initiate  
conversation to help children and adults  
with autism spectrum disorders  
10:30—10:45—Break  
10:45—12:15—Using manual prompts  
& Script questions & answers  
12:15— 1:00 — Lunch  
1:00 — 2:00—Part II—Lengthening  
scripts into conversation & interaction  
2:00—2:15 — Break  
2:15 — 3:15—Continue Part II  
Teaching conversation & interaction  
3:15 — Adjourn

### **Conference Outline:**

- Activity schedules: A platform for scripts
- What are scripts?
- How to be a good conversation partner
- How to be an effective prompter
- What is script fading?
- Questions and answers
- Beginning social initiations
- Commenting on activities and materials
- Programming language variety
- Teaching question asking
- Teaching conversational affect
- Peer interaction
- Scripts for adolescents

### **Learning Outcomes**

- Use scripts and script-fading procedures
- Use and fade manual prompts
- Define and measure conversation

5 BACB CEUs can be earned by participating  
0.5 ASHA CEUs can be earned by participating



### **This workshop is designed for:**

- Teachers, paraprofessionals and related service professionals
- Speech Professionals
- Parents are welcome!

Summit Educational Resources  
150 Stahl Rd.  
Getzville, NY 14068

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## Conference and Speaker Information

### PROGRAM SUMMARY

Scripts and script-fading procedures help children with autism engage in the give and take of ordinary, daily conversation. These procedures are not used to teach children to *speak*, but to teach them to *interact*. Young people learn the nonverbal components of conversation (approaching and visually attending to another person), as well as the verbal components (initiating conversation, waiting quietly while others talk, and then responding to what they say). Many parents and teachers know from experience that teaching children with autism to talk is no guarantee that they will engage in conversation. Youngsters who have acquired extensive spoken vocabularies and who have mastered the uses of adjectives and prepositions may never talk to parents about the events of the school day or initiate conversation with teachers about home activities. The goal of scripts and script-fading procedures is to help children with autism learn to do more than say what we prompt them to say or answer our questions. The goal is to teach them to engage in real conversation with us. In this presentation, we will explain how to use scripts and script fading; videotapes will be used to illustrate these procedures.

### SPEAKER BIOS

Patricia J. Krantz, Ph.D. and Lynn E. McClannahan, Ph.D. are Executive Directors Emeritae of the Princeton Child Development Institute (PCDI). They have received many honors; for example, the Society for the Advancement of Behavior Analysis chose PCDI as the recipient of the Award for Enduring Programmatic Contributions in Behavior Analysis, and Division 25 of the American Psychological Association honored them with the first Fred S. Keller Award for Distinguished Contributions to Behavioral Education. They have made many international contributions to autism intervention in Australia, France, Norway, Poland, Russia, Spain, and Turkey. Their research on behavioral intervention, accountability systems, staff training and mentoring, and program evaluation has been widely recognized. They are the authors of many journal articles and book chapters and co-authors of two books, *Activity Schedules for Children with Autism: Teaching Independent Behavior* and *Teaching Conversation to Children with Autism: Scripts and Script Fading*. Their first investigation of script fading procedures was published in 1993; their research on this topic spans more than a decade.



The Speech-Language-Hearing Association of Western New York (SHAWNY) is approved by the Continuing Education Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide continuing education activities in speech-language pathology and audiology. This program is offered for 0.5CEUs (intermediate level, professional area). ASHA CE Provider approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products or clinical procedures.

This event is sponsored by the New York State Association for Behavior Analysis (NYSABA). NYSABA is approved by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board (BACB) to offer continuing education (CE) for Board Certified Behavior Analysts and Board Certified Associate Behavior Analysts. [www.nysaba.org](http://www.nysaba.org). - 5 BACB CEUs can be earned by participating.

Our annual conference will be held on November 6 & 7, 2008 in Albany.

## Registration Information

- Professional \$160.00
- Parent \$100.00
- Student \$100.00
- SHAWNY Members \$150.00

\* **Conference cost includes hand out book titled, "Teaching Conversation to Children with Autism: Scripts and Script Fading" - McClannahan, L.E. & Krantz, P. J. (2005)**

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Registration Options: (Please include this completed form with your registration)

- **Register On line: [www.summited.org](http://www.summited.org)**
- By Phone: Lynn Elbersen—716-629-3400 ext. 1503
- By Fax: 716-629-3499
- By Mail: Summit Educational Resources

150 Stahl Rd.—Getzville, NY 14068

Registration fee or PO must be received by October 10, 2008. Late or on-site registration will be charged an additional \$10.00. Cancellations received up to 5 working days before the conference are refundable minus a \$15.00 service charge.

**NYSABA**