

DIR®/Floortime Summer Camp

Pediatric Physical and Occupational Therapy Services

The Offices of Rosemary White, OTR/L

20310 19th Ave NE, Shoreline, 98155

Phone: (206) 367 5853

Fax: (206) 367-9609

e-mail: pedptot@comcast.net

www.pedptot.com

www.rosemarywhitepediatricsservices.com

Staffing and Goals of the Camp:

The camp has an estimated one to three ratio for children who do not require a one to one aide. However, in the one to three ratio the children are not assigned to a specific aide for the entire camp. Over the course of the camp, we make our plans for the camp at our daily meetings where we organize the aides and which children they are responsible for facilitating interaction. Our goal is for the children to interact with many different children in a natural flow of play so that there is a fluid aspect as the child leads us. This is particularly so for the children who do not have a one to one aide. We do not want the camp to be adult driven with adult organized activities but rather we coach our aides to facilitate the children when they show interest and a desire to explore activities that another child shows interest in. These activities may be as simple as watching another child climb on the climber or push a car around a track or and complex as games with structure and rules that are developed by the children.

I would describe the camp as many small groups that are fluid as the children's interests in other children attract them to each other. Some children develop specific friendships and gravitate to a particular group; others mix with the entire group at different times.

The Environment:

The children play in the portables that are set up with various toys - trucks, garages, dolls, trains, table activities, dress up, and opportunities for physical play There is a very big outside area as well.

The Flow of the Day:

- The children arrive and the parents bring them to the entrance of the portable for good byes
- As the children arrive they enter the portable to play and we start the flow of interaction
- In some sessions we have done a good morning song and in others we have not, it depends on the group of children and how attuned they are to each other and if they need that structure or if it is more effective to move into facilitating interactions immediately.
- The children have outside time usually about twice in a session, but it is not necessarily the entire group that will go out at one time. There may be a group of six children and two aides who will go to the playground (we always have two adults with the children when they are outside).

DIR@/FLOORTIME SUMMER CAMP
Pediatric Physical and Occupational Therapy Services
The Offices of Rosemary White, OTR/L

- There is a snack/lunch time during a session and this is more for social interaction than a true need for nutrition. Again it is not a set time for the whole group but we move with the flow of the children and usually three or four children will eat together - thus giving us the opportunity to make this snack time one that is for the social aspect of eating with peers.
- At the end of the session we usually do a goodbye song and then go out to meet the parents outside the portables.

The reason the children are greeted at the entrance to the portable and picked up outside is that it cuts down the number of people inside the portable and dedicates the portable as the place to play with friends. As the portables are in the rear of the school with a large parking space we are able to chat with parents in this area and this makes the transition to cars and car seats smoother.

Parents Meeting:

Prior to the camp there will be a meeting at Pediatric Physical and Occupational Therapy Services main office to orient new parents to the camp and answer any questions.

Each week there is a parent meeting that occurs during the camp time. This meeting is led by the Kristin McNally, the lead therapist in the morning camp and Marissa Shelnut, the lead therapist in the afternoon camp, and Rosemary White remains at the camp. This is a time for the parents to view video clips of the children in the camp and to highlight the areas of functional emotional development and related social interaction that we have been focusing on over the past week. This is also time to ask questions and to have an opportunity to interact with the other parents who have children in the camp.

We look forward to having your child in our Summer Camp.

Rosemary White, OTR/L